THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 11TH JULY.

A CORRESPONDENT thus comments on the Resolution of the Government of Bengal on Charitable Dispensaries:

In Para 2 of the resolution on the report on Charitable Dispensaries in Bengal for 1880, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 29th ultimo, occurs the following passage:

"The number of dispensaries has enormously increased in Bengal of late years, not because "generous and humane efforts" have been made by wealthy members of the native community to provide their poorer brethren with medical aid, but because Government has afforded undue facilities for obtaining European instruments and drugs and the services of Medical officers at the public cost."

We were under the impression that the wholesale reduction and crippling of dispensaries was owing to want of funds and the necessity of curtailing expenditure. If the Government have no money to spare for charitable purposes, the reduction of expenditure is a necessity and cannot be helped or blamed, but it is a matter of deep regret that this should be done with such a slander upon the community as is contained in the paragraph quoted above. Most of the dispensaries in Bengal have been established by the exertions of enlightened native gentlemen for the good of the people, and if these exertions were not "generous and humane efforts," I cannot conceive what these are.

The entire Resolution is characterized by a narrowness of mind which was certainly not expected from the Government of Sir Ashley Eden. Here is another passage from the next paragraph. "Where the legitimate work of the dispensary was only sufficient to give employment to the hospital assistant and one menial compounder and other servants, the object of this was clear enough. The compounder looked after the dispensary, while the hospital assistant attended the richer subscribers at their homes or sought private practice elsewhere." We were under the impression that a compounder was allowed for the purpose of compounding medicines and that this was done under the rules for the management of dispensaries in force up to this time. It is certainly a revelation to learn from the Government Resolution that the object of having a compounder was to enable the hospital assistant to attend on the richer subscribers. We have been told that the establishment of some of the dispensaries have been reduced to one native Doctor on Rs. 30 and one sweeper on Rs. 3. no servant or compounder being allowed. The native Doctor will have to do the work of a menial servant as also of a medical man, and a compounder, the sweeper keeping the premises clean. It is no wonder, therefore, that under this admirable discipline the figures of dispensary returns are "utterly unreliable" and "that in very many cases the dispensary books are systematically written up without any reference to the number actually treated." Reduce the pay of Native Doctors still further and make them do the sweeper's work in addition and they will become still more useful!"

WE HAVE received from the Secretary to the Aborigines' Protection Society in England a report of the Earl of Shaftesbury's speech delivered at the annual meeting of that Society. We are sorry we cannot afford space for the whole speech, but we will give its salient points. The first point on which his Lordship laid stress was the necessity of stringent regulations under certain circumstances for the management and control of the mercantile marine of England. His Lordship was of opinion that the hostility to and distrust of the white races on the part of natives of less civilized countries was entirely due to the acts of sailors in the marine service. With regard to the question of South Africa the noble Earl expressed a desire to see the native people in that country. As for the Transvaal affairs his Lordship would particularly urge that the British nation should be impressed with the imperative necessity of doing all that they can to prevent the Boers from tyrrannising upon the native races. He would also insist upon due facilities being given for missionary operations, and proper restraint put upon the importation of ardent spirits.

A NEW STENOGRAPHIC MACHINE is now in use at Paris. It is worked by means of a key-board and an alphabet of six elementary signs, from which are combined 74 phonetic letters. The operator can print the words as fast as a person can speak, and it is said that these signs can be learned within a very short time. Blind people, it is suggested, might, from the acute sense of hearing they commonly possess, probably make good operators. The curious machine is adapted to every language, and the operator can record the words spoken, even if they be of an unknown tongue.

WE GIVE below an abstract of a letter which we have received on the subject of the last examination of Assistant Magistrates and officers of the Sub-Executive Service:

The writer begins by stating that an acting Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector has to pass in two subjects, namely, law and language. In law two papers are set, one on the Criminal Codes and the other on Revenue or General Law. Now there being no connection between Criminal Law and General Law it is very hard if a candidate passing in the former be not considered to have passed at all if he fail in the latter. The examination in the 1st Standard or the Criminal Codes and in small law papers is a very difficult test requiring substantial knowledge and great intelligence on the part of the examinee. The use of books which is permitted at the examinations does not lighten the difficulty, the candidate must have carefully read and studied the Codes together with case law, the use of unannotated and unindexed Codes is a slight advantage. The result of this system is that few pass at the first or second the Criminal paper for the lower standard and in the paper on all laws for the higher standard. The Criminal Law is a very extensive subject requiring careful study of case law, and the paper on general laws in the higher standard embraces all the acts and regulations of the imperial and local Councils. All this difficulty might be obviated by allowing a candidate to take up one of the two branches at a time. The study of the regulations and general laws should embrace the text-books as well as the Board's rules and minutes of the proceding Governors-General and Members of Council who have written on revenue matters. Any body who passes in any one of the two branches should be declared to have passed in that branch once for all and the Government will confer a great blessing by declaring that those who have passed at the last examination in any one of the two branches to have completely passed in that branch.

ANOTHER ominous discovery has been made at St. Petersburg. A few days ago it was announced that the Czar, not feeling safe even in his fortress palace at Gatchina, was about to remove to Peterhoff. It is now stated that the whole of the officers and crew of the guardship stationed near Peterhoff have been changed, on suspicion of Nihilism. A number of revolutionary proclamations have been found on board the ship. During the stay of the Czar's new yacht, the Lividia, at Buyukdere, extraordinary precautions were taken to prevent her being approached. Electric lights, were kept burning all night, and the boats of the Russian warship warned off all craft in the neighbourhood. Uneasy the head which wears a crown!

TUESDAY, 12TH JULY.

A SEVERE storm lately visited the United States. It damaged the railways, injured the crops, broke up timber rafts on the rivers, and strew the sea coast with wrecks, and several persons have been killed by lightning. Fifty persons, men, women, and children, are believed to have been killed.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE ON THE HOUSE OF LORDS. At a Conservative festival at Evesham Sir Richard Temple in proposing the House of Lords said:

It was the most august and truly noble institution in the world. It was an Assembly which protected the interests of property, and especially the property of the land. It maintained the union between Church and State. It fostered national education in connection with the Church. It was an assembly of high culture, learning, and large experience in everything which related to the welfare of the people. It was, moreover, a truly popular assembly; and, although some persons might be jealous of its occasional interference in some national crisis, nevertheless, when the House of Lords did interfere, it was always supported by a strong party in the House of Commons and by popular opinion. The House of Lords was the guardian of those great foreign and imperial interests which had been alluded to by previous speakers

THE FOLLOWING is an abstract of the new Army Reorganization scheme of England:

In future cavalry regiments are to have two lieutenant-colonels, three majors, five captains, and twelve lieutenants, besides the adjutant, who in future may be selected either from lieutenants or captains, and will be supernumerary of their rank. They will hold their appointments for five years—renewable in certain cases for two years more. The organisation of a home battalion of infantry will be altered so far as that the lieutenant-colonel at the depot will serve with the home battalion, and he will be replaced at the depot by one of the majors of the battalion. Quartermasters are to be allowed the rate of pay assigned to 15 years' service as such, after a total service of 30 years, including 10 years as quartermasters; or at the age of 50, with 10 years' service as quartermaster. The widows of quartermasters are to receive the same pension as lieutenants, and the retiring pay of an officer of that rank will be £200 a year, with a reduction of £10 for each year of service less than 20 years (counting rank service as half time), but there will be a minimum of £150 a year. Riding masters will participate in the rules affecting infantry quartermasters, and a schoolmaster after 11 years' service, on re-engagement, will become a warrant officer. With respect to retirement, officers compulsorily retired on account of age will be allowed the maximum pension of their rank; but retirement on account of age will be governed by army rank, thus greatly increasing the value of brevet promotion. General officers who have not reached the age at which they would be retired, but who have been unemployed for some time, will lose £10 a year of their retiring pay for each year they are below the compulsory age, but the reduction will not be greater than £100. The tenure of battalion command is fixed at four years, and after the end of six years a lieutenant-colonel will be promoted to the rank of full colonel. A lieutenant-colonel whether first or second in command, after four years as such, will be made a colonel, but he will not leave his regiment until the six years have expired, when he will be entitled to colonel's retired pay. The number of generals on the active list is to be reduced to 140; and as on the 1st of July there will be an excess of 50 over this number, it has been decided to absorb every second vacancy. In the artillery, in consequence of some officers having entered the service late in life, some captains are to be permitted to serve until 42 years of age—instead of 40. On the question of pay, second lieutenants will be allowed the first increase of pay after two years, subject to passing an examination, and there is a slight increase in the pay of all officers. Majors, captains, and lieutenants promoted from the ranks will be allowed to complete 20 years' service (rank service reckoning as half) and will retire on a minimum of £200 a year. The number of rewards for distinguished service are to be reduced by one-half. The promotion which is to take place on the 1st of July is to be by present and not by the new territorial regiments, but subject to the return of officers who may have been compulsorily retired under the warrant of 1878. With the new double-battalion territorial regiment system an officer abroad will be able to exchange into his affiliated battalion at home without loss of regimental position, and his facilities of being able to come home, if he wishes, will be greater than they are at present, for his regiment will have eight companies abroad and twelve at home.

MR. THOMAS BURT, M. P., was summoned at the Newcastle police-court for non-compliance with a magistrate's order to vaccinate his child. Mr. Burt was not present, but was represented by his wife, who stated that she objected to vaccination on principle. The bench imposed a fine of 20s. and costs—in all £1 7s.

THE DOUBLE VICTORY of American horses in the English Derby and the French Grand Prix has had a very stimulating effect on American sportsmen. Race-horses are selling at high prices in America.

COLONEL C. G. GORDON C. B., R. E.—"Chinese Gordon"—after a long absence on special employment has finally decided to return to military duty under the War Office, and has been appointed Commanding Royal Engineer at Mauritius, which office it is his intention to retain for the usual period.

WEDNESDAY, 13TH JULY.

MR. THOMAS HOLLOWAY, the "eminent pill and ointment manufacturer," as some one has called him, purchased four pictures by Landseer, Millais, and Stanfield at Christie's the other day for nearly £20,000.

THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE of Madras makes the following remarks on the local Police:

A serious feature in this case is the extraordinary procedure of the Police authorities. A material point in such cases is to ascertain exactly when, to whom, by whom, and in what terms complaint was first made. I called for any record of a preliminary investigation, as the accused having been in jail since the 9th June, I concluded some proceedings must have been had to justify his detention. I was informed that there was no record of any investigation. Here is a man imprisoned for nearly three weeks without one atom of evidence being recorded against him. I cannot say I have much sympathy for this individual, but what has occurred in his case may occur, and possibly has occurred, in others.

It is a grave matter when any man may be arrested by a constable and forthwith consigned to prison for weeks—and if for weeks, why not months?—by a mere wave of the hand, without any record whatever of a justification for his imprisonment, and having been lodged in jail, there the man may remain, to be brought before a Magistrate just when it suits the pleasure or convenience of the Police, or he may be turned adrift without ever seeing a Magistrate at all. The Acting Commissioner of Police may or may not be cognizant of these irregularities; possibly he may not consider them to be irregularities; but when they come to my knowledge, it is my duty to notice them in a manner that will command attention.

Has the Commissioner of Police taken any notice of these remarks?

WE ARE SORRY to record the death of the Honorable Calamur Viravalli RunganadhaSastriar of Madras. He was a self-made man. He was chief interpreter of the Madras Supreme Court, and was afterwards a judge of the local Small Cause Court. On his retirement from the public service he was appointed a member of the Legislative Council. The *Hindu* thus writes of him:

Unlike many of our countrymen he continued till his death in the habits of studiousness, which he contracted in his earlier life; and considering the responsible duties he had to discharge in his public capacity, and the anxiety to which he was subject on account of the large family left to his care, it is astonishing how he found leisure to ac-

quire an intimate knowledge of the vernaculars of Southern India, including Sanscrit, Arabic, Hindustani, and Persian languages; and in his laudable ambition to acquire distinction as a linguist, he did not neglect European languages. In addition to English he knew French, German, Greek and Latin languages. Mr, Ranganadah Sastriar was, howeves, an example to his countrymen, not so much as a studiour linguist as he was a model embodiment of certain traits of character deserving the highest admiration of the rising generation. While he showed deference to those whom he regarded his superiors in any respect, he commanded the same from them by his frankness and independence of character. He was an utter stranger to flattery or compromise and though his acquirements were not after the modern stamp, he possessed a strong common sense which rendered his opinion on various political and social questions valuable and worth seeking.

The deceased was an example to his countrymen.

IN A CONVOCATION at Oxford, on June 14, forms of statnte were passed permitting selected candidates for the Civil Service of India to obtain the degree of Bachelor of Arts without passing responsions, and allowing candidates in the second public examination, who do not seek honours, to offer subjects connected with the languages, law, and history of India.

THE ARMY AND NAVY GAZETTE says that there is a strong opinion both in England and in India, that the Madras and Bombay commands are doomed, and by that the Army Corps organisation, as recommended the Simla Committee, will be introduced in India before long. All the leading authorities are strongly in favour of the change. The Horse-Guards as might be expected are opposed to the change.

THE BROTHERTON SANSKRIT prize at Cambridge, given every three years, open to all graduates of the University under the standing of M. A., has been awarded to Cecil Bendall, B. A., fellow of Gonville and Caius College.

MR. CHARLES RUSSELL, the Government astronomer at Sydney, has reported a curious astronomical discovery. At the present time, he states, a very large spot is passing over the sun. Some idea of the extent of the disturbance which this spot indicates may be gathered from the fact that, with a few spots which form a tail-like appendage to the large one, it measures 80,000 miles long by about 30,000 broad.

THURSDAY 14TH JULY.

REFERRING to our remarks on the appointment of Mr. Grant Duff the *Times of India* says:

Our Bengal contemporary, the *Hindu Patriot*, referring to Mr. Grant Duff's appointment to the Governorship of Madras, confesses that it did not expect that the right hon. gentleman would "sacrifice a brilliant Parliamentary career." We doubt very much if Mr. Grant Duff will make any such sacrifice by his residence for a few years in India, and we are not alone in that opinion. We may be quite sure that so shrewd a man as Mr. Grant Duff is, will take good care that he is not forgotten by his political associates although he is to be banished to that part of India where good men stand a chance of being lost sight of.

Nothing could be more gratifying to us than to see first-class men of England take up Indian appointments. But the misfortune is that now-a-days they wont and don't come out to India.

THE LIBEL CASE against the *Times of India* in connection with the Silver Mine Company has fallen through. Seeing the disclosures made the prosecutor has withdrawn the charge. Prudence is the better part of valour.

THE LONDON DAILY NEWS says that the career of Sir Josiah Mason, who died on the 16th ultimo, is one of the most remarkable on record, for, starting as a journeyman shoemaker, and subsequently becoming a hawker of teacakes made by his wife, he afterwards amassed an immense fortune, and was enabled during his lifetime to bestow upon Birmingham, his adopted town, benefactions exceeding 400,000*l* in value. He was the great steel-pen manufacturer.

WE HAVE received from a correspondent the following remarks on the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill:

With reference to your series of articles on the bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, Bill No VIII of 1881 I beg to draw your particular attention to the dangerous proposals contained in *Section* 14 to invest certain Police officers with Magisterial powers under certain circumstances and to invest Magistrates with Police powers as contained *in Section* 38. I can add very little indeed to your vast experience to elucidate the mischiefs such innovations in the law are calculated to bring upon the community, but allow me to recall to your mind the fact that Sir Richard Garth did not in the beginning of 1877 agree with the Bengal Government in bestowing Magisterial powers upon the Deputy Commissioner of the Calcutta Police, though he is under the blaze of well informed public opinion of the metropolis see. *Queen Versus Haribolechandra Ghose* reported in the Indian Law Reports, Calcutta series for 1876 or 1877, the number and month of which I am now unable to mention. You must have noticed in the *Englishman* of the 29th ultimo how two of the Hon'ble Judges (Cunningham and Prinsep) of the Calcutta High Court could forget themselves and I request you to consider what havoc the objectionable provisions are likely to bring about to the uncared-for people in the far Mafussil. As for the option of the local Governments and administrations I can safely say that they are very willing to act up to the recommendations of their district officers. Notwithstanding the High Court decision alluded to you will see on a reference to Bengal and Assam Civil lists that the Police Superintendents in the Chittagong Hill Tracts,—Naga Hills,—and Debrugar &c have been invested with Magisterial powers, a subject which was duly noticed in the *Hindoo Patriot* in 1878.

Over a week a Comet is being observed in Assam of the description given in the *Englishman* at the date refetred to above.

THIS SEEMS to be a golden season for lawyers. The Tikari case is not yet over, and another pagoda tree has flowered at Dacca. It is a civil suit between Newab Abdul Gunny and his coparceners. Mr. Branson and Mr. Ameer Ali have been engaged by the Newab on Rs. 1000 and Rs. 890 respectively per diem, Babu Doorgamohun Das and his brother Babu Bhoobunmohun Das have been engaged by the opposite side on Rs. 1000 and Rs. 500 respectively per day. It is said that the Newab will invite the Advocate General to a trip to Dacca for one week for a consideration of Rs. 10,000.

MR. MARSDEN, the Chief Magistrate of Calcutta, has delivered the following judgment in the Tank Case against the Municipal Corporation:

In this case, I am of opinion that every due precaution and care had not been taken by the Municipality in filling in the tank in question. It was from Dr. McLeod's evidence absolutely necessary that the tank should be filled in at once, and the Municipality proceeded to fill it in, as they have filled numerous tanks before, though their method of filling in tanks with sweepings does not appear to be an admissible method. I think the prosecutors are entitled to a conviction, but I do not consider it necessary to pass substantial punishment on the defendants. The complainants can, if they be so advised, apply for redress to the Civil Courts. The defendants are discharged.

This means that tanks should not be filled with sweepings. What will Dr. Payne now say to this?

FRIDAY, 15TH JULY.

IT IS said that it has now been definitely settled that a camp is to be formed at Agra in the early part of the ensuing cold weather, and that the Viceroy will pay a visit of some weeks' duration to the old capital of the N. W. Provinces. The "offices," will, as usual, come down to Calcutta in November; but Agra will in all probability be honoured as the temporary seat of Government during that month.

RESPECTING THE new Italian loan the *Times of India* hears that from two hundred to two hundred and fifty million francs will be in silver. One condition of the loan is that it shall be floated without disturbing the money market in any way. Besides Barings and Hambros, there is a coalition formed of the Societe Marsellaise, Societe Generale de Credit Mobilier Italien, and one or two others, with a couple of well-known foreign banks connected with the Barings; and eminent private banking houses connected with Hambros in the East also take shares. The result of this loan should give some indication how the new Indian loan is likely to be taken up and will probably tend to strengthen the price of silver and raise exchange.

THE LUCKNOW EXPRESS reports the death, on Saturday last, at the age of ninety, of Nawab Malka Jehan Begam, widow of Muhammad Ali Shah, the first King of Oudh, and grandmother of the ex-King Wajid Ali Shah. She is said to have left nearly half a crore of rupees in Government securities.

WE OBSERVE that there will be an exhibition of models of agricultural appliances at the Agricultural Society's Gardens. The Bengal Government has suggested to the Society the desirableness of the formation of a collection of models and drawings of agricultural appliances, in aid of which it will give a grant of Rs. 500.

THE PROCEEDINGS of the last meeting of the Agricultural Society contains an interesting report from Mr Inglis on the supply of fruits from Melbourne, from which we give the following extract:

Apples dried and fresh, dried apricots, figs, raisins, platachios, almonds, walnuts, pomegranates, and grapes, &c, are imported from Afghanistan. Dried fruits and nuts in the largest quantity. The cost of carriage is great, as hundreds of miles have to be traversed by the camels who carry the fruits.

The statistics for importation from Cabul and Candahar, taken from the Inland Trade Returns, are about £1,20,000 worth yearly.

The price of apples, of smallish size, at Cawnpore in the centre of Nothern India, and in Calcutta, is about a rupee or from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. a score. The grapes are of a long whitish kind, with thickish skins, very sweet, and they are packed in round chip boxes, three rows to each box. Each grape is cut from the bunch and laid separately on layers of cotton wool. In this way they bear long journeys, a large per centage keeps good for months, and they sell in Calcutta at an average of about a rupee per box. I estimate each box to contain, say, about 100 grapes.

Cannot a trade in Indian mangoes and cocoanuts with England be established in these days of the Suez Canal? The Fuzli mangoes keep about a month.

SATURDAY 16TH JULY.

THERE WERE 186 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 9th July, of which 8 were from cholera, 1 from small-pox, 60 from fevers, 19 from bowel-complaints, 2 from accidents and snake-bite, 21 from pthisis and asthma, 8 from convulsions, 21 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Ten children were still-born, 36 died between the ages of 15 days and under and above 15 days and under one year, 24 persons died at the age of 60 and upwards. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 12. The average of daily mortality during the week was 2·65.

WE HAVE received the following communication from the Bengal Government:

The following telegram addressed to the Government of Bengal by the Government of India in the Foreign Department is published for general information:—

"Turkish Government now requires all pilgrims and others landing at Jeddah and other ports in the Hedjaz to produce passports. This should be made known as widely as possible, and immediate measures should be taken to provide passports at ports in Bengal for all who apply. Each applicant should be directed to register his name at Jeddah Consulate on arrival. Owners of vessels should be warned that passengers are liable to be refused permission to disembark unless provided with passports."

The necessary instructions are being issued by the Government of Bengal for the supply of passports at all ports in Bengal.

OUR ASSAM Correspondent writes as follows under date the 11th instant:

In my last letter I alluded to the outbreak of cholera in Gauhati. I am now glad to be able to tell you that it has since considerably abated. But still the notorious fact remains why Gauhati, of all other places in Assam, should be most subject to cholera epidemic? Gauhati has the largest Municipality in Assam with an income of something like 30,000 Rs. and yet its sanitary condition is so deplorably bad that it reflects great disgrace on the management of the local Municipality. Formerly Gauhati was a pretty good healthy station, but now it has become a hot-bed of all sorts of diseases. Cholera, dysentery, diarrhœa &c. prevail more or less all the year round. All this is owing to the gross neglect of the Municipality in doing its duties. The present Commissioners were nominated some 7 or 8 years ago and are in nine cases out of ten ap-ka-waste men. Private reasons, rather than a sense of public duty, guide their proceedings. Surely nothing better can be expected from such a state of things. Mr. Elliot is credited with the possession of great scrutinizing powers. Will he bring them to bear upon the working of the Gauhati Municipality?

The practice of punishing hill-tribes by burning their villages has long been in fashion in Assam. Of late it was getting rather too prevalent, and the Political Officer, Naga Hills, Major Michell, particularly was getting very notorious in this respect. We are very glad to learn that Mr. Elliot has got the sanction of the Government of India to put a stop to such a cruel and savage practice at once; and he has given Major Michell a wigging which, it is to be hoped, that gallant officer will lay to heart. In all civilized countries punishment by conflagration has, save in exceptional cases, long been abolished and experience has shown that the savage, like all other human beings, is more easily tamed by conciliation and kind treatment than by the adoption of extreme measures.

Owing to the late disturbances in the Garo Hills, it has been suggested to erect a Block House at Tura. In the Chief Commissioner's opinion, however, there is no necessity for such a house. But he says that if one, which will accomodate all the officers and their families, without at the same time requiring an increase in the present strength of the frontier police to defend it, can be erected at a moderate cost, he will be ready to sanction the proposal.

Your readers are perhaps aware of the cause of the quarrel between Burmah and Manipur which has been pending for some time past. The boundary line between the two countries is very uncertain. The tract of country, near the Kubo Valley, was formerly uninhabited, but it is now extensively peopled by Taugkul or Lahoopa Nagas who profess allegiance to the Maharaja of Manipore. Last year the Burmese Raja of Sumjok tried to induce these Nagas to transfer their allegiance to him, but was unsuccessful. He thereupon made a few raids on some Manipuri villages, and carried off a large number of women and children into slavery. Certain villages were occupied also, where regular stockades were built. The, Burmese, were however, driven away afterwards into their own country by troops from Manipur. Such was the state of things in February last. But with a view to as far as possible preventing similar disturbances in future, it has been proposed to demarcate the frontier more accurately next cold weather. As however the Manipuris have suffered much from the aggressions of the Sumjok Raja, Government has also decided, on behalf of the Manipuri Durbar, that he should give up all the presoners he had carried off and pay a sum of Rs. 10,000 by way of compensation.

A FEW days ago, says a correspondent of the *Statesman*, "Darjeeling was visited by a violent storm which not only uprooted some huge trees lining the mall, but did considerable damage to several houses. Four strong barracks in the cantonments at Jellapahar were completely unroofed, three or four windows of the military chapel were blown off their hinges, and a tall birch held in special veneration by the Bhooteas was sent down the khuds. The old residents are quite aghast at this occurrence, asseverating that it never blew in such an awe-inspiring manner before." Storms of this kind were almost unknown in Darjeeling. Should they become frequent, Darjeeling must have a new class of buildings than what it now possesses.

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HIS HIGHNESS the Maharaja of Mysore has appointed a Council, which is vested with both legislative and executive functions.

WE HAVE received the following telegrams from the Press Commissioner's Office :

Simla, June 13th.—The Turkish Government now require all pilgrims and others landing in parts of the Hedjaz on the Arabian Littoral of the Red Sea to produce passports. Arrangements have been made for the issue of these at the Indian ports of embarkation and passengers are liable to be refused permission to disembark unless they are provided with them.

13th.—A Kandahar report, dated 8th July, states that General Taj Mahamed Khan and sixteen other rebels have been captured by the Tirin people and are being sent into Kandahar. There is much excitement in the city consequent on the reports brought by merchants of Ayub's having reached Furrah. A regiment, lately arrived, has marched to Girishk. The Amir's troops appear to be in the camp at Kalah-i-Gaz, a small district just above Girishk. It is said that the following Sirdars are with Ayub Khan's force :—Hafizoolla Khan, Abdulla Khan, Nasiri, Sartip, Noor Mahomed Khan, Kandahari, Kazi Abdul Salam and Husein Aly Khan, the former Seedh Saler of Afganistan.

14th.—The rumour that an attack had been made by Sema Nagas on the Lhota village has proved to be unfounded.

16th.—Letters form Kandahar of 10th and 11th July, reports all well. Rainforcements of infantry and cavalry had left Kandahar for Pusht. I rud regular infantay cavalry and khasadars from Kabul being pushed on the Kandahar.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications :—1. Report on the Charitable Dispensaries under the Government of Bengal for 1880. 2. Report on the Administration of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, for 1880-81. 3. The Stationery Trades' Journal (London) No. 16, June, 1881. 4. Ramayana in original Sanskrit with a Bengali Translation, published and distributed *gratis* by Babu Protapchunder Roy. 5. Ami Romoni or "I am a woman"—a poem in Bengali. By Bhoobunchunder Mookerjea. 6. Mr. Aitchison's Memorandum on the consumption of opium in British Burmah, and other papers relating thereto. (Parliamentary Paper).

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, July 9th.—The Irish Land Bill is making rapid progress in Committee. Clauses thirteen to twenty-four inclusive have been passed. Discussion on clause twelve has been postponed. The *Times* of 8th July states that telegraphic communication with Sfax is interrupted. It is reported that the bombardment of the town by French gunboats lasted two days, and that the forts, the great Mosque and a portion of the Musalman quarters, have been destroyed ; obstinate resistance continues.

10th.—The Queen yesterday held a grand review of Volunteers in Windsor Park. The force numbered 56,000 men of all arms.

10th.—Messrs. Baring Brothers and Hambre of London have contracted for the new Italian Loan of 640 million (Francs) negotiations for which were recently broken off by the Rothschilds. The loan will be issued next week upon such conditions as will obviate any monetary disturbance.

11th.—The new Italian loan amounts to thirty millions in sterling. The rate of interest is five per cent. and the minimum rate at which tenders will be accepted is fixed at 90. The contractors retain Hall (query half) until next year.

12th.—Lord Hartington, replying to a question, said the scheme of reorganisation of the engineering branch of the Indian Public Works Department was seriously occupying the attention of Government. His Lordship promised to give his attention to the representations respecting the pensions and position of the officers of the department generally, and will communicate with the Indian Government on the subject.

13th.—Mr. William Shaw, member for Cork and Home Ruler, has declined a seat on the Land Commission.

14th.—The extreme Home rule members of the House of Commons are obstructing the emigration clause of the Irish Land Bill.

15th.—Clauses 25 and 26 of the Irish Land Bill have passed the committee of the House of Commons. After the signature of the latter clause, Mr. Gladstone strongly denounced the tactics of the extreme Home Rulers, which in his opinion degraded the House.

Junis, July 10th.—The bombardment of Sfax continues. The French troops are prevented from landing. Lord Hatherley and General Sir Richard Waddy.

11th.—The French squadron is proceeding to Sfax. The Tunisian troops who were sent from here to quell the insurrection, refused to fight against the insurgents, and have been brought back.

13th.—Some Turkish ironclads have arrived off Tripoli and are being watched by a French squadron. A revolt has taken place at Cabes, and all Europeans have been refuged in the Shipping in the harbour.

New York, July 11th.—President Garfield shows feverish symptoms, otherwise he is progressing favorably.

12th.—President Garfield's feverish symptoms have abated.

Algiers July 12th.—The Algerian insurgents have attacked the French at Kreider and been completely repulsed with a loss of 250 in killed. It is reported that the Tripoli tribes are marching to relieve Sfax, the bombardment of which continues.

St. Petersburg July 12th.—The *Journal De St. Petersburg* contradicts the rumoured negotiations between the Russian Government and the Merv chiefs, and says that Russia wishes no extension of territory, and only desires to have her frontier settled, and with this object negotiations have been opened with Persia.

Sophia July 13th.—The Bulgarian Parliament voted by acclamation the conditions of Government demanded by Prince Alexander.

Sophia July 13th.—The Prince of Bulgaria has issued a proclamation respecting reforms in the public service. The Assembly will annually decide on the budget, and all international questions will be settled by that body.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Tuesday, the 19th Inst., at 7½ P. M.

Subject : Ohm's Law and its Applications.

Practical Class in Chemistry under Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F. C. S., F. I. C., on Wednesday, the 20th Inst, at 5 P. M.

Lecture by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on Thursday, the 21st Inst., at 7½ P. M.

Subject : On the Principal Cometary theories.

Lecture by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S , F.I.C. on Saturday, the 23rd Inst., at 3 P. M.

Subject : Glass and Porcelain.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JULY 18, 1881.

THE LAND QUESTION IN THE DECCAN.

MR. WILLIAM WEDDERBURN, of the Bombay Civil Service, discusses the important question in an able and thoughtful article contributed to the June number of the London *Statesman*. He begins by pointing out that in solving the Agrarian Problem in the Deccan, there are three chief interests to be considered—the cultivator, the money-lender and the State ; and he rightly says that no settlement can be regarded as satisfactory unless it recognizes and satisfies the just claims of all three. As things now stand, each of these interests in the Deccan is in distress and demands relief. Mr. Hope's Agriculturists Relief Act has not solved the question, as we have over and over again shown in these columns, for the simple reason, that the measure does not go to the root of the evil. The Act is nothing better than a palliative and it does not recognize the real position of the Deccan ryot. It sanctions the confiscation of the property of the money-lender, without whom the cultivator cannot even live. The supporters of Mr. Hope's Act feel a secret satisfaction in seeing the village sowcar ruined, as they look upon him as a veritable Shylock. But these men shut their eyes to the hard and incontestible fact that the money-lender is an inevitability. Sir John Strachey, in the debate on the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Bill, observed :—"It would be a great misfortune and mistake to suppose that Government approved the idea of a crusade against the money-lenders. Money-lenders are obviously as necessary to the Indian Agriculturist as the seed which he sows, or as the rain which falls from heaven to water his fields. Agriculture without them would probably be impossible." Yet Mr. Hope's Act practically sanctioned a crusade against the money-lenders. Mr. Wedderburn thus describes the miserable position of the village sowcar :- "At present his condition is a very deplorable one. For when debtors are ruined, creditors must suffer, and during these recent famine years, his hard-earned savings have gone out in advances which will never be recovered. It must also be borne in mind that the small village money-lender has seldom capital of his own : he trades on capital borrowed from the big sowcars, who have their banking firms in the large towns. He is now in a miserable position, the law giving him no protection against the latter, while it has created great difficulties in his way when he tries to recover his dues from the ryot. It thus happens that for the last two years, [that is to say, since the passing of Mr. Hope's Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Bill into law] Marwari money-lenders have been the principal inmates of our civil gaols." This state of affairs cannot be regarded as a satisfactory settlement of the Agrarian problem in the Deccan, when it is borne in mind that the ryot cannot cultivate his land without the money-lenders' help. On the other hand, the ryot finds it difficult to meet the Government demand, and the holdings of many cultivators have been sold up for arrears of land revenue. Some remedy for this condition of things must be devised, and the question is, what measures of administrative reform should be adopted ?

This important question Mr. William Wedderburn seeks to answer in the article under notice. He goes to the very root of the matter when he says that the revenue system must be materially modified to suit the peculiar circumstances of the Deccan districts. This has been our opinion from the very beginning. Mr. Hope himself admits that "to our reveuue system must in candour be ascribed some share in the indebtedness of the ryot." Sir Robert Egerton, in the debate on Mr. Hope's Bill, boldly said : "Too little attention had been paid to this cause, which must, in a great degree, have contributed to, if it did not entirely originate, the difficulties of the Deccan ryot." Sir Robert's views did not, as might be expected, find favour with the "Executive Lagislature" Mr. Wedderburn states that when he first came to India twenty years ago, he was a great admirer of the Bombay revenue system, and his opinion was strengthened by his being stationed in the Southern Mahratta country, where a rich black soil and a sturdy class of yeoman proprietors supplied conditions very favourable to the success of the scheme. But when he saw the working of the system in Sind, he was convinced that it was not adapted to the circumstances of all parts of the Presidency. Mr. Wedderburn continues : "Again, an unvarying cash assessment on each plot of ground is an arrangement unsuited to the conditions of the Indus Valley. The river is constantly changing its course, so that though in one year the alluvial mud may produce a crop of grain that would do credit to the Nile, the same tract may the next year, and for all time to come, be nothing but a sandy waste. Similar anomalies, affecting both the value and the tenures of the land, developed themselves when the system was applied to the forest gardens of Kanara, and the reclaimed land on the stony ridges of Ratnagiri. A powerful centralized department is intolerant of local peculiarities, and the Survey Rules, rigid and unyielding have proved a very bed of Procrustes, on which with many groanings, the zemindar of Sind, the mulgar of Kavara, and the Khot of Ratnagiri have been stretched, each in his turn. It is this same vice of rigidity, this refusal to recognize local peculiarities, which has marred the success of the system in dealing with the Deccan ryot. The special and unfortunate characteristic of the Deccan districts, is the extreme uncertainty of any harvest. It has been stated on authority, that the cultivator 'hardly gets a full crop once, in three years, for the land is mostly unirrigated, and the rainfall very precarious ; while, to secure a harvest, the rain must not only be sufficient in quantity, but must fall at the right intervals, and be distributed in a particular way, say a minimum of one inch during each fortnight of the rainy season. In these unfavourable circumstances, the ryot who has no accumulated capital, is unable to stand alone. Living from hand to mouth, he cannot, without the help of the money-lender, tide over the constantly recurring years of famine and scarcity. The land can be kept under cultivation only by the combined action of the ryot and the sowcar, a partnership between labour and capital. The cardinal error of the Survey, as regards the Deccan districts, is that it refuses to recognise these facts. It refuses to see the ryot as he really is. It places upon him the responsibility of punctual cash payments, a liability which he is quite unable to meet ; while it refuses to the sowcar his just position in the rural economy, and forces him against his wish into an attitude of hostility. It is easy to trace the error from the very commencement. In the early survey reports we find sketched out a pleasing picture of rural prosperity. Government, the universal landlord, content with a trifling quit-rent, securing to the ryot all the benefit of his improvement and enterprise. But in this Arcadian vision no place was assigned to the capitalist. From this paradise the sowcar was to be excluded and thrust into the background, and regarded as the wily tempter seeking to betray innocence to its ruin. Such being the sentiment, it is easy to understand the indignation which was felt when, in the course of years, the real state of the case forced itself on attention. The ryot was found too feeble to

grasp the advantages offered to him; and the sowcar an unbidden guest, alone seemed to profit by the bounty of Government." Hence the crusade against the money-lenders. The conclusion which Mr. Wedderburn draws from a careful study of the operations of the Bombay Revenue survey, is that in the case of the Deccan districts it has erred in two ways: (1) the cultivator has been burdened with a rigid liability of punctual cash payments, while (2) the money-lender has been ignored, and allowed to drift into a false position. In this view every intelligent and unprejudiced person who has carefully studied the subject, will concur. To remedy the evil arising from the rigidity of the revenue demand, Mr. Wedderburn recommends a cautious return to the old system of collection of the Goverment demand in kind. He says: "I propose to offer to the ryot *a permanent settlement in kind*,—say one-sixteenth (one anna in the rupee) of the gross produce. But, to encourage him to convert his dry land into wet, I would fix for each field a quit-rent in kind, say three-sixteenths of an average dry crop, which he might at any time elect to pay instead of the share of the actual gross produce. An arrangement of this kind will suit all classes. The ignorant and apathetic man would hand over his one anna share of the ordinary dry crop of bajri or jawari at harvest time, and would not be driven to the sowcar for cash to pay the assessment; while the enterprising man would dig a well, and elect to pay the quit-rent as soon as he found that the increased value of his sugarcane, or other garden crop, made that alternative profitable to him." Under Mr. Wedderburn's scheme the Government share of the produce would be collected through zemindars or farmers of the land revenue, such as existed under Native rule. The zemindars would realize the share of the produce due to the State from the villages handed over to their charge, and pay a lump sum into the Government treasury.

This is Mr. Wedderburn's scheme for a Permanent Settlement for the Deccan. We have all along held that the inexorable tax-gatherer, who makes no allowance for the variations of the seasons and exacts his pound of flesh without caring whether the fields have yielded any thing or nothing, is the veritable Shylock, and not the money-lender, but for whose aid the land could not be cultivated at all. While strongly supporting Mr. Wedderburn's recommendation to adopt "the assessment of the land revenue to the variations of the seasons," we regret we cannot approve of his proposal to collect the Government demand in kind, and to entrust its collection to a class of middlemen to be created for the purpose. The suggestion that Government should take a fixed portion of the gross produce of the land looks quite unexceptionable on paper. But in judging of the merits of any scheme, we should not merely look at its theoretic excellence. Experience has amply shewn that the practical working of the system of collecting the assessment in kind inflicts no end of hardship and oppression on the cultivators.

The collection of the assessment in kind affords opportunities for extortion, of which it is difficult to form an adequate conception. If the system of administration could be made perfect, we would strongly support Mr. Wedderburn's proposal to collect the Government demand in kind. But the fulfilment of the condition we have laid down is impossible in a country like India, where the people are utterly powerless to protect themselves against persons dressed in brief authority. Mr. Wedderburn tells us that opportunities for oppression would not exist under the system proposed by him, "as the demand *from* the ryot would be strictly limited and defined, while the zemindar would exercise no official functions, though he could, under the Regulation, obtain aid from the revenue authorities in realizing his just dues." Now, who is to determine the outturn of the standing crop? This work would, we think, devolve upon the zemindars or farmers of the land revenue; and here immense opportunities for oppression and extortion would exist. Again, under Mr. Wedderburn's scheme, it would be necessary to arm the zemindars with power to recover their dues by a summary process. If such a power is given, it is sure to be abused. *A permanent settlement in kind is no permanent settlement at all.* The benefits of such a permanent settlement as Bengal enjoys should be extended to the Deccan; otherwise; the introduction of a class of middlemen would be a curse instead of a blessing. The most important thing is to adapt the assessment of the land revenue to the variations of the season. If this were done, the ryots would not object to pay the Government demand in coin. Indeed, he would, we believe, strongly oppose the proposal to revert to the old Mahratta practice of collecting the assessment in kind. The people would appreciate the moderation of the Government demand, if it should be adapted to the variations of the season. We quite agree with Mr. Wedderburn that before any new system could be brought into working order in the Deccan, the ryot's existing debts should be settled. He must be made a freeman before he could make a fresh start in life with any hope of success.

PROGRESSIVE ENHANCEMENT OF RENT IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

Messrs. Crosthwaite and Neale, who made the recent settlement of the Etawah district in the North-Western Provinces, suggested that the Government should provide for gradual increment of rent. A new settlement in those provinces is almost invariably accompanied by an increase in the assessments; and a necessary consequence of such a settlement must be the enhancement of rents. It appears that in the Etawah district a considerable increase in rents was effected within two years of the imposition of the new demand. Thereupon, the Government of India desired the Government of the North-Western Provinces to consider (1) whether it is practicable to fix progressive rents under the present law; (2) if not, whether it is desirable that this power should be given.

As regards the first point, the Allahabad Board of Revenue, after consulting the Revenue officers of the Province, have come to the conclusion that it is not practicable to fix progressive rents under either the present North-Western Provinces Revenue or Rent Act. 'Neither Act," writes the Secretary to the Board, "contemplates the fixation of progressive rents nor are either the Local Government or the Board empowered to make rules enjoining the imposition of progressive rents under section 257 of Act XIX of 1873 or section 211 of Act XVIII of 1873. These sections must be read with sections 71,72, and 74 of Act XIX., and sections 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20 and 30 of Act XVIII, by none of which imposition of progressive jamas is provided for. Even where a settlement officer has fixed a progressive land-revenue demand, he is incompetent to order a gradual enhancement of the rent up to a certain maximum rent, unless of course the landholders agree. He might, perhaps, bring the landholders to terms by refusing to confer the boon of a progressive jama unless the zemindars consented to extend the corresponding boon of a progressive jama to their tenants. But once the land-revenue demand was fixed and no such agreement had been made, the settlement officer would be powerless in the matter. He could assess the land to rent only under sections 71 and 72 of the Land Revenue Act." The Government of the North-Western Provinces concurs in the opinion expressed by the Board of Revenue that progressive enhancement of rents cannot be decreed in those provinces under the law as it stands. The Rent law of the North-Western Provinces does not, as a matter of fact, provide any checks like limitation and progressiveness, on the enhancement of rents. Of this there can be no doubt whatever, that section 77, Act XIX of 1873, distinctly lays down that the enhanced rent shall be payable from the 1st day of July next following the date of the order of the settlement officer, and shall not be liable to enhancement or abatement for ten years from such 1st of July, unless under the provisions of sections 16 and 17 of Act XVIII of 1873.

The question then arises is it desirable that the law should confer on the settlement officers and rent courts the power of fixing progressive rents in order to prevent hardship to the tenants? The reader knows that the question of progressive enhancement of rent has been raised by the Bengal Rent Commission. The Commission write in para 61 of their Report:—"Having thus indicated the broad substantive principles which should in our opinion regulate the enhancement of rent, we turn to the positive checks which we think should be applied in order to prevent hardship as the result of the operation of these principles. And first we have provided that when enhanced on the ground that the productive powers of the land have increased, or on the ground that prices have risen, the enhanced rent shall in no case be more than double the former rent. It usually happens that the causes which here create the basis of the increase are gradual in their operation, and the cultivator gradually gets accustomed to the enjoyment of the increase. To have to give up and hand over to his landlord any part of which he has appropriated and learned to regard as his own seems hard to a person who like an uneducated cultivator, is more prone to consider the present grievance than the past benefit which he has been enjoying. If so much is suddenly taken as to effect a sensible change in his position and standard of comfort, a feeling of injury is excited which it is impossible to say has not some foundation in reason. If a European were required at a few months' notice to pay four times the rent which he has been in the habit of paying for his house, he would resent it as an intolerable grievance; and if he were compelled to keep the house and pay the quadruple rent, he would regard it as legalised tyranny. Now, a ryot may not be positively compelled to keep his land, but he cannot give it up, because it is to him the means of subsistence, and he feels as much bitterness as the European at being forced upon a few months' notice, to pay treble or quadruple his former rent. We think it reasonable, therefore that no ryot's rent should be advanced *per saltum* to more than double, and as there may be cases in which even this increase would involve very great hardship, we have further allowed progressive enhancement—that is, by a gradual yearly increase for any number of years not exceeding five until the limit of the enhancement allowed has been reached. We have allowed progressive enhancement in all cases in which the court or the Collector sees fit; cases that is, falling under all four grounds of enhancement." The reasons urged by the Bengal Rent Commissions in the passage just quoted, do not apply to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. The circumstances of the latter differ widely from those of Bengal. In the temporarily-settled districts of the North-Western Provinces differences between actual and possible rents are practicably impossible. Rental and revenue, indeed, increase *pari passu*. Wherever the assessment is increased, the landholders institute enhancement suits without loss of time with the view of raising their rents to the level of double the revenue demand. This the landholders must do, as it would otherwise be quite impossible for them to meet the increased assessments. A revenue exceeding half the existing assets is generally fixed by the settlement officer on the assumption that these assets are capable of increase by enhancement. It is, therefore, only fair that no checks should be imposed on the enhancement of rents. Where the revenue is increased, the rents must be raised in proportion to meet this increase. Where Government does not show any consideration to the landholders, the latter cannot afford to be generous to their tenantry. Sir George Couper rightly holds that the necessity for progressive enhancement of rent has never arisen in the North-Western Provinces. As regards Oudh, the question is not of much importance, for the simple reason that the number of occupancy tenants in that provinces is extremely small. The conditions under which occupancy rights are recognized in Oudh, the reader knows, are the result of a compromise between the talukdars and the Government; and any modification of this compromise, Sir George Couper justly observes, might be held to be a breach of faith. The only case in which gradual increment of rents is justifiable is where the boon of a progressive revenue has been conferred on the landholder. As Mr. Stewart Reid, the late Senior Member of the Allahabad

Board of Revenue, says:—"The settlement officer should be empowered to fix progressive rents in all cases in which he fixes progressive jamas, on the ground that the existing rental is too low to justify the imposition of the jama which he considers, should be assessed on the estate. The exercise of any such powers would of course be unnecessary where the existing rental would justify the immediate imposition of such jama, but where the great and sudden enhancement of the revenue demand would be ruinous to the landholder. In all cases in which the progressive enhancement of rents would be advisable, the annual increment to the rent should be regulated by the annual increment to the jama, and should extend over the same term of years." Mr. C. P. Carmichael, the Junior Member of the Board, is in favour of fixing progressive rents when the settlements for land revenue are progressive and then the rental rates, he considers, "should rise annually in the same ratio with the progressive annual demands." We fully agree with Mr. Carmichael. Whenever the boon of a progressive jama is conferred on the landholder, the settlement officer, when fixing progressive assessments of land revenue, should have the power of fixing progressive rents. If Government grants progressive assessment to the landlords, the latter should in common fairness be made to grant progressive rents to their tenants.

THE BENGAL JAILS.

THE last annual report on the Bengal Jails presents some very satisfactory results. It shews a great reduction in the jail population, a decrease of 33 per cent. in the death-rate, a great diminution in the number of escapes from jails, a reduction of 43 per cent. in the number of corporal punishments inflicted on prisoners, a reduction in both the gross jail expenditure and the cost per prisoner, and an increase of 33 per cent. in the profits from jail manufactures. The number of prisoners of all classes received during the year was 82,356, or. 7,618 less than in 1879, and 17,245 less than in 1878. The total number of prisoners discharged during the year was 83,406, and at the close of the year there were 17,305 persons in the custody of the Jail Department—a smaller number than in any year since 1867. The fall in the jail population was the result of a great decrease in crime, due it is believed to the good harvests and low prices of the past two years. In most of the districts in the province the number of persons sentenced to imprisonment was lower in 1880 than in the previous year, the districts showing the largest decrease being Backergunge, the 24-Pergunnahs, the Sonthal Pargunnahs, and Beerbhoom.

The two most important points, which call for notice, are the diet and punishment of the prisoners in our jails. In a recent article on the subject we noticed that unusual mortality had occurred in our jails owing to reduced diet scale prescribed by the Prison Conference. Dr. Lethbridge the Inspector General of Jails in his present report writes: "Shortly after this the results of the annual medical statistics and reports for 1879 led me to believe that the general unhealthiness and increased mortality was due to an insufficient scale of diet. On closer enquiry into the subject, it was found that competent observers had, some years previous to the meeting of the Prison Conference, declared the old Bengal and Behar scales of diet insufficient when hard labour had to be exacted from the prisoners. Not only was this point not brought out in the investigations of the Prison Conference, but the oil, an important item in a dietary, composed chiefly of rice, was reduced from two-thirds of an ounce to one-fourth of an ounce. The allowance of meat, also, which was compulsory under the old rule, was made optional in the new scale, and in consequence not given to the extent it used to be. The effect of this scale was so gradual that a large majority of the medical officers did not attribute the increased sickness to the altered diet-scale. On the 22nd March arrangements were made to increase the diet by issuing an early morning meal consisting of three ounce of gram or rice and one ounce of molasses. The quantity of mustard oil in the regular ration was doubled, and latterly one-fourth of a chittack of tamarind was added to the usual condiments. The nutritive value of the Conference scale for Bengalis was 139 grains of nitrogen and 4,710 grains of carbon; for Beharis 188 grains of nitrogen and 5,062 grains of carbon. This was the calculation, if rice is supposed to contain 3·5 grains of nitrogen per ounce. If we take the nitrogen at 5 grains, the figures of the Conference scale would be 174 grains of nitrogen and 4,710 grains of carbon. In the Behar dietary, the same calculation would be 208 grains of nitrogen and 5,062 grains of carbon. The effect of the extra diet, when gram was used, was to raise the nutritive value of the Bengal diet to 219 grains of nitrogen and 5,193 grains of carbon, and of the Behar diet to 253 grains nitrogen and 5,545 grains of carbon. As regards nitrogen, the Behar scale is still below the North-Western Provinces scale for long-term prisoners, the allowance in that province being 281 grains of nitrogen. There is not much difference in the average weight between the Behar and the North-Western prisoners. I think, therefore, that both Bengal and Behar men should have a further increase in the quantity of nitrogen." The Lieutenant-Governor remarks: "The excessive rates of sickness and mortality in the jails of the province during the year 1879 were noticed by the Lieutenant-Governor at length in his review of the year's administration, and Sir Ashley Eden then expressed his conviction that the chief cause of the increase was the adoption of the diet scale proposed by the Prison Conference. The report for the past year entirely confirms the view taken by the Lieutenant-Governor, and there seems now no room for doubt as to the cause of the heavy mortality in 1879. The increase in the diet scale made in March last had almost immediately a marked effect on the health of the prisoners, and in each month from that date there was a decrease as compared with the previous year in the proportion of deaths to the mean convict population. The Lieutenant-Governor concurs with the Inspector-General that it is not desirable to have a reduced scale of diet for short-term convicts, as these prisoners are nearly all employed on the oil-mill, the most severe form of penal labour, and any reduction of diet has been found to result in a loss of weight which the prisoner cannot recover during the short term of his sentence. The scale proposed in paragraph 110, which largely increases some of the most valuable constituents of a native diet, should at once be tried for a year, and if it is found to succeed the scales for Bengal and Behar respectively may be permanently adopted." We are glad to observe that the strange mistake committed by the Prison Conference by the reduction of the diet scale has been so speedily rectified. We are told that Bengal was not altogether unrepresented in the Conference. Mr. Beverley, the then Inspector General of Jails, was the Bengal member of the Conference. But we are surprised to learn that it did not strike him to tell the Conference that the nutritive qualities of rice and wheat were not the same. It was the misapprehension of the Conference on this point, which led to the unusual mortality in the Bengal Jails in 1879. This is the way our benevolent Government promotes the health of the people!

We now turn to punishment in jails. We find that corporal punishment had abnormally increased. The total number of corporal punishments inflicted in district and central jails during each of the past six years, and their proportion to the total number of punishments in jail, are shown in the following statement:—

YEAR	Corporal punishments.	Ratio per cent. of corporal punishments to total number of punishments.
1875 ...	2,973	18·7
1876 ...	2,370	13·4
1877 ...	3,014	14·2
1878 ...	4,789	15·1
1879 ...	8,232	16·0
1880 ...	4,654	7·5

Seeing the enormous rise in corporal punishment the Lieutenant-Governor this time last year issued strict orders enjoining our jail officers to spare the whip as much as possible. The result is satisfactory. Of the 4,654 cases in which corporal punishment was inflicted in district and central jails in the year 1880, 3,386 occurred in the first six months of the year, and only 1,268 in the six months after the issue of the Resolution on the last annual report. At the latter rate the number of cases of corporal punishment per annum would be 2,536, or less than in any of the six years above mentioned, except 1876. Since the close of the year 1880 there has been a further reduction, the return submitted by the Inspector-General for the first quarter of 1881 showing only 284 cases of corporal punishment, or only 1·85 per cent. of the average daily population of the jails.

We are glad to observe that the Lieutenant-Governor attaches due importance to the supply of good drinking water to the prisoners in our jails. The Resolution says, "the Lieutenant-Governor believes that a pure water-supply is almost as important in its relation to the health of the prisoners as a sufficient scale of diet. Though much has been done of late years to improve the water-supply, much remains to be done especially in arranging for a proper system of filtering. The diseases which caused the largest number of deaths during the year were dysentery, diarrhœa, anæmia and general debility, diseases of the respiratory organs, and fever. There were only 31 deaths from cholera, a lower number than in any of the previous seventeen years." We will discuss in another issue the subject of the forms of penal labour in vogue in our jails.

PUBLIC HEALTH IN BENGAL IN 1880.

SIR ASHLEY EDEN has in his usual outspoken style recorded a very readable Resolution on public health in Bengal in 1880 in the shape of a review of the Sanitary Commissioner's report. In the first place His Honor condemns the birth and death returns as unreliable. "The statistics of mortality, according to sex and age," the Lieutenant-Governor remarks, "show a trifling improvement, but they are still so very wide of the mark, that they only go to confirm the unreliability of the general figures." The most satisfactory feature in the sanitary history of the year was the remarkable decrease of Cholera. Only 39,643 deaths from this cause were recorded against 136,363 in 1879. In 118 of the registration circles there was no record of cholera at all. The heavy rainfall of the year is considered as one of the great preventing or mitigation causes. The number of recorded deaths from Fever was 689,605 against 622,260 in 1879. Fever prevailed severely in all the districts of the Presidency Division. But though the mortality in parts of 24-Pergunnahs, Jessore, and Moorshedabad was serious, the virulence of the disease, as the reader is aware, was much greater in Nuddea. The extreme severity of the fever was in November and December, "when 25,035 deaths were recorded against 7,014 in the same period of 1879. "There can be no doubt," the Lieutenant-Governor remarks, "that the adverse influence of heavy rainfall and obstructed drainage was much assisted by the neglect of sanitation, which makes some of the towns of Nuddea remarkable even among the towns of Bengal. A scheme of drainage for the town of Krishnaghur is now being prepared by the Public Works Department, as the local officers are unable to suggest anything practical; and the Lieutenant-Governor has signified his willingness to give a grant in aid of the work if the scheme is adopted by the Municipality." But the Krishnaghur Municipality is poor; it has not means to pay for an expensive drainage system; if the Government does not bear the bulk of the cost, we fear the much-needed improvement will not be carried out. Referring to the apathy of the local officers to take proper precautions when the fever broke out epidemically last year in the district of Nuddea the Resolution says: "The Lieutenant-Governor had occasion to censure the local officers of Nuddea for their failure to take cognizance of the outbreak of fever until it was too late to take measures of precaution, or to give effective medical relief to the people. It does not appear that any spontaneous notice was taken of the outbreak by the Sanitary Department, though the returns pointed to alarmingly increasing mortality. The Sanitary

Commissioner was subsequently desired to visit the district, but he makes no record of the result of his enquiries. If he did not carry out the orders of Government, some explanation should have been offered." We hope this mild censure of the Sanitary Commissioner will have the desired effect. It is interesting to learn that, though fever of a severe type was so prevalent throughout the country, the town of Rungpore, hitherto the very nest of fever, showed a large decrease in mortality from this disease, compared with that which ruled between 1875—78. This improvement in the health of the town is due to the drainage works which have been carried out in the interval by the Municipality, aided by local subscriptions and by Government. In the Dacca district there was much fever of a fatal type, particularly in the police stations of Nawabgunge and Amligola. The Civil Surgeon, Dr. French, describes the effect of the silting up of the Boorigunga and the consequent obstruction to the drainage of the country. The Commissioner of the Division is requested to submit a special report on this point." Lastly the Resolution says:

"The general sketch of the sanitary condition of the different districts practically resolves itself into a repetition of the two great wants—good water and good drainage. As reference is made to the prevalence of fever in one district after the other, the Sanitary Commissioner points to obstructions of the drainage and the filthy condition of the tanks as the two great promoting causes of sickness. Both these questions have been repeatedly brought to the notice of district officers by the Lieutenant-Governor. Sir Ashley Eden has no doubt that, if district officers would only steadily address themselves to the object of improving the drainage by the means which have been indicated to them, the well-being of the people of their districts would be immensely promoted. The smaller schemes can be gradually worked out by the landholders and villagers, if they are properly influenced, or by the District Committees. For larger schemes to improve the drainage of populous tracts, the Lieutenant-Governor has expressed his willingness to contribute grants-in-aid from the public funds. The improvement of the water-supply is a matter of less difficulty. It cannot be doubted that, if the district officers would exercise their personal influence judiciously, many of the noxious tanks to which special reference is made in the report would be cleansed and improved. This is frequently a matter of small expense, calling rather for the co-operation of the villagers than for any large outlay on hired labour. In many cases nothing further is needed than to overcome their ignorance and apathy and to induce them to exert themselves a little for their own good. It is reported that Mr. Anderson, the Magistrate of Bankoora, has succeeded in inducing the landholders and the people to re-excavate tanks and to reserve some specially for drinking water. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that instances of similar action in other districts will be recorded in the next report."

The Lieutenant-Governor seems to forget that the times have changed, that the district officers of the present day being of a different *jat* as it were do not exercise the same personal influence over the zemindars and other native gentlemen that their predecessors used to do before, and that consequently they cannot effect much in the way of stimulating private benevolence for public purposes. They keep the native gentry at arm's length, not unfrequently do they make it positively disagreeable to the latter to approach them, and in this state of their relations they cannot be expected to influence them much in the directions indicated. We wish Sir Ashley Eden were able to correct the angularities in the character of the present class of district officers.

THE CAWNPORE EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

MR. FULLER'S Report on the operations conducted on this farm for the kharif season of 1880, is now before the public. The operations include (1) a series of field experiments to determine the value of certain agricultural processes, seeds, and manures; and (2) the development and manufacture of cheap agricultural implements in the farm workshops. Let us see what success was achieved in both these branches of work during the season under report. Field experiments were conducted to test (1) the effect of different manures; (2) the effect of deep cultivation, with or without inversion of soil; (3) different kinds of fodder crops; (4) different kinds of cotton; (5) different kinds of maize. The success of the experiments, it is explained, was, to a great extent marred by the failure of the autumn rains. In regard to experiments on the effects of different manures, Mr. Fuller admits that all the experiments but one were prejudiced by the failure of rain or other causes, and their results are of no value. He writes:—"With one exception the crop with which all the experiments were made was maize, and it suffered so greatly from deficiency of water that the results which were obtained are valueless. The outturns were not only extremely small, but discordant, since the different manures had no fair chance of producing their full effect. In the case of one series of experiments it is evident that I was misled by the farm's records in believing the series of plots experimented with to have been on a par, as regards previous cropping and manuring. I have alluded in a previous report to the hopeless inaccuracy of these records, and I should not have trusted to them in the present case had not the ground from which the plots were demarcated lain fallow during the preceding year, so that I had had no opportunity of judging of its quality by seeing it cropped." The experiments, to be of any practical value, should have been conducted on plots of land which had been an a par as regards their treatment in previous years. The farm records showed that the treatment of the plots had been similar, but in reality this was not the case." The significance of this admission cannot be exaggerated. So long as the records of the Cawnpore farm remain inaccurate, it is sheer waste of public money to conduct experiments on it, as their results cannot be relied on. The first business of the Department of Agriculture should, therefore, be to secure the perfect accuracy of these records. When that has been done, the Department might conduct field experiments with advantage. The only experiment with manures, the results of which Mr. Fuller considers reliable, was one which was tried with rice, and the manure experimented on was bone-dust. There were good facilities for irrigation, as the field lay immediately under the canal distributary and received numerous floodings. We are told that the value of outturn per acre on the plot which was manured with bone-dust was Rs. 51, while that of the unmanured plot was Rs. 40. The use of the manure to the value of Rs. 4 per acre increased the outturn by Rs. 11, that is to say, it gave a clear additional profit of Rs. 7 per acre. True, the question is whether the average cultivator can afford to manure his field with bone-dust at the cost of Rs. 4 per acre. An ordinary ryot has a holding, say, of 5 acres. The application of bone-dust to this quantity of land will involve a capital outlay of Rs. 20; and the expenditure, it should be borne in mind will yield no return till the second year after the application. The ryot will, therefore, have laid out Rs. 40 before he could expect any return from the outlay. As he has, speaking generally, no resources beyond the current harvest he will have to borrow this money of the village sowcars. The interest on the capital outlay for two years at the rate of one anna per rupee per mensem will come up to Rs. 45; so at the end of the period the ryot will have to pay the money-lender Rs. 85. If his five acres give the full expected additional profit, that is to say Rs. 7 per acre, he will have received only Rs. 35. Now, would this investment pay the ryot? We ask the North-West Department of Agriculture to answer this question. It is curious that the enthusiastic agricultural reformer does not concern himself with such vulgar considerations as pounds, shillings and pence. He takes his stand on an elevated platform, and lectures the ryot on the value and effect of different agricultural processes and manures, without condescending to consider whether the latter is in a position to carry his teachings into practice. We do not here say any thing about the strong religious prejudices of Hindu cultivators to the use of bone-dust, of which the North-West Agricultural Department makes light.

The season under report being one of drought it afforded an excellent opportunity for testing the value of deep cultivation. There can be no doubt that deep cultivation is beneficial in a season of drought. Mr. W. R. Robertson, the head of the Madras Agricultural Department, in one of his reports, makes the following remarks on this subject. "Deep-ploughing, that is the inversion of the soil to a great depth, is in many cases injurious, and I would warn any one from rashly attempting the practice; it has in some cases been known to ruin good land for many years, owing to a raw sub-soil, in which nothing could grow, being brought to the surface. Deep cultivation, on the other hand, has almost always most beneficial effects; it is not so much that the outturn is enhanced, but that the soil is not so easily affected by climatic disturbances and affords a larger field for the roots of plants to search for food in thus maintaining the average of productive power for a much longer period. *Unless more manure is used, no extra depth of cultivation can ever permanently maintain an increased outturn, the two things must go together.* No doubt under exceptional circumstances, * * * * deep cultivation gives most astonishing results in the shape of increased outturn, but had it not been for the drought, the benefits would not in that case have been so easily discoverable. *I can only reiterate an opinion I have long held that deep cultivation can, if universally followed and efficiently performed, do perhaps more to avert famine in India than almost any thing else.* It would also, if adopted, greatly enhance the productive capacity of this country, for our surface soils cannot but be in a very reduced condition for the supply of the requisite plant food for our crops, and very much poorer than their sub-soil." The italics in the above passage are ours. The great value of deep cultivation in resisting the effects of drought was fully proved by the experiments conducted on the Sydapet Farm in 1877-78, the great famine year and in the Cawnpore Farm during the kharif season of 1880, which also marked by the failure of the autumn rains. But, then, we must not forget what Mr. Robertson has so clearly pointed out that unless more manure is used no extra depth of cultivation can ever permanently maintain an increased outturn. Deep cultivation in a season of drought, if it does nothing else, at all events pays for the cost of cultivation, which is no small thing. The experiments conducted on the Cawnpore Farm, however, show that those plants benefit most by deep cultivation which are deep feeders; while it is not much beneficial in the case of shallow feeding plants. Cotton benefits in a remarkable degree by deep cultivation in a season of drought, but millets and other cereals derive no benefit from the same. On the contrary these latter suffer from the rawness of the newly-inverted soil. Sensible, though we are, of the value of deep cultivation in a season of drought, we cannot shut our eyes to the almost insuperable difficulties that stand in the way of its introduction into this country. These difficulties we described at length in reviewing Mr. Allan Hume's pamphlet on *Agricultural Reform in India* in these columns last year. We are glad to notice that Mr. Fuller's experiments with both cotton and juar have shown very clearly that the indigenous staples of the country are, by careful selection and proper cultivation, capable of holding their own against imported varieties.

Coming to the other branch of the work of the Cawnpore Farm, viz., the development and manufacture of cheap agricultural implements in the farm workshops, we notice that the implements manufactured during the season under report were ploughs, sieves, winnowers, and pumps. We are told that 204 ploughs were sold from the farm workshops at Rs. 6 a piece. We should very much like to know how many of these were taken by ryots in estates managed by the Court of Wards, and how many by ryots in estates managed by their own proprietors. Without this information, we cannot say how far the plough invented by the North-West

Agricultural Department is popular with the Native cultivator. Mr. Wright states that Mr. Fuller's modified plough received the first prize at the recent Lucknow Exhibition, but the Committee, which adjudged the prizes, was not a thoroughly independent Committee. The "Kaiser" plough, as the implement invented by the North-West Agricultural Department is called, is an adaptation from American samples, and its very sight is distasteful to the ryot. Mr. Wright seems to have realized the difficulty of solving the plough problem, when he says, that it is necessary to concede to the ryot's prejudices as much as can be done without abandoning the principles which it is the object of the operations conducted by the Agricultural Department to inculcate; but it remains to be seen whether this plan is practicable.

FRA DIAVOLO IN CLOUDLAND.

TIME was when Cloudland was the seat elect of the dread divinity, Mahadeo, the invincible lingam, (*durjjaya linga*). Perhaps his spirit still hovers over the place; but he is no longer in body present there, having retired to make room for the Vice-king of Bangaland, who has made it his summer capital. I call it a place, and so far I am safe, but if one were to ask me what is its geographical name? I would be somewhat puzzled. When I first beheld it, it appeared to me very like Tenneriffe, a rocky peak amidst a vast expanse of water. There stood the hill, with its sides studded with white chalets, and all below and around was a limitless expanse of foaming water. Anon, the clouds enveloped the chalets, and I could not see much beyond the tip of my nose. Lo! there is another turn in the kaleidoscope; the clouds are gone, the sea has receded, and there is a group of several hills, beautifully clothed in green, and surrounding a deep hollow. Beyond the group, the sea is as intact as ever, calm, smooth, and glowing white, ready once again to give birth to the foam-sprung goddess of my school-days. In this state I left the scene, and retired to rest. In the morning I found it was not what I saw at night. The clouds were nowhere, the sea had vanished, the mist had disappeared, the sun was shining bright, and hills over hills spread as far as the eye could reach, while up in the air, far to the north, there loomed a marble palace of the fairies, white as driven snow, and gorgeous beyond conception. I watched it long and anxiously with my glass, but no fairy could be seen. Obviously they are not given to imitating the lark, and after their nightly carousals, disposed to morning slumbers. At first sight, the palace was by itself the most exquisite object that one could wish to behold, and I did not, therefore, feel much the absence of the fairies. In nursery tales, fairies are always represented as fond of flowers; but in this their vast palace there is no sign of vegetation. It is castellated with towers and steeples and donjons and parapets of chalk, or marble, or snow, but nowhere could any green be seen. The people of Cloudland give to this palace the most unpoetical name of Kanchinjhunga. I took it to be the Wonderland of Alice, for a passing wonder it is beyond all cavil, though I saw not Alice there. Perhaps she is there, but before I had time to watch her, a mist blew from the east, threw a curtain over the palace, snuffed out the sun, and my Tenneriffe of the preceding night with a vast foaming sea all around was all that was left me. These changes occur so often every day and so suddenly that one can scarcely look around himself with any certainty. And as if this was not diversion enough, the clouds are ready a dozen times every day to melt, and present one with a shower-bath free and gratis, unless a Mackintosh be always ready at hand. The rains and the fogs and the mists of this place are not of the low degenerate type of their conjeners on the plains, a single touch of which is synonymous with a fever or a bronchites for a month. They are of a heavenly mould, deeply imbued with the celestial fire of lightning, and though they may wet or damp your clothes, suffuse your eyes with tears, and provoke a sneeze or two, they seldom cause a sore-throat. I had heard of the fire and had hoped to have drunk out of it overflowing goblets of ozone, which, doctors say, abound in it; but I got instead bucketsful of rank fog and nothing more. Another peculiarity of the place is that you have to give up your old ideas about seeing up high in the sky for clouds and thunders and lightning; here you may look below hundreds of yards under your feet to see them at play. Then, again, though 7 to 8 thousand feet nearer to the sun, the source of all heat, and a *priori* bound to be hotter than the plains, it is even in July cold enough to make a blanket in your bed and a fire in your room comfortable. Looking to these paradoxes and phantasmagorial, confounding changes I was once disposed to name the place Blunderland, and I am fully qualified by the sacred character of my cloth to officiate at a Christening, but no body in Cloudland would like the name, so I dropped it.

The dwellers in this land of cloud and fog are of different types, and markedly different from each other. The autochthones are a fair, sturdy, stout race, with well-developed calves and swelling deltoids, but specially characterised by an almost total natural absence of all hirsute appendages to their flat, square faces, and more than once I was puzzled to distinguish the sexes from their faces. What an ugly mistake to make! I thought of the coiffure as a test of sex; but I heard the bachelors crop their hairs close, and married people cultivate a long pendant braid, somewhat like a Chinese que, and exactly what their fairer halves do; so it failed me. The dress too is so much alike in the two sexes, that it proved no safe guide. In the usual unpoetical spirit of the place, they call these people Lepchas.

Another race, as sturdy and square-faced as the last, but fairer and shorter, and not autochthones, is called Bhot. The men of this race are inordinately fond of raw spirits, but they greatly dread the spirits of the air, whence I believe their generic name—a corruption of *Bhut* or devil. They have, however, a very cunning method of keeping all unwelcome spirits away from them; they have slips of China-paper bearing charms written in Tibetan character hung on tops of trees, or on poles, or from a line stretched from pole to pole, and thereby intercept the motion of aireal visitors. I wish they had an equally cunning contrivance for keeping out raw spirit from their bodies. They have a mortal dread, too, of all ablutions and washing of clothes. Such a thing as bathing is unknown among them, and from year's end to year's end the same clothes serve them, till they rot and drop off from their bodies and a new suit is unavoidable. They have enough and excellent water at command. It is held in a cauldron by a demon, who is styled the lord of Sinchal, and sent down to Cloudland under a pressure of 1,500 to 2,000 feet; but they hate to have any thing to do with what is supplied by demons in general, and this demon in particular. Some say that it is cold that deters the people from bathing; but I don't believe it, for that would not account for their not washing their clothes, and the immigrants from the west, a thin, wiry, short, cunning race, of a brunette complexion, who live in the same climate, do not object to bathing or washing.

These three classes of people all live in the hollow aforesaid, or in uncanny nooks and corners down below, and are destined to be the "hewers of wood and drawers of water" for another and a fairer race which thrive on the crests and the higher sides of the hills. The members of this fair, white race live in the prettiest chalets, command the finest gardens, and find life to be "all beer and skittles." A chief scribe may have his room lumbered with red-tape, down in a khud, and another may be occupied with equally oppressive matter on the brow of a hill, but they are naturally hard-working persons and form the exceptions; for the bulk, love and lawn-tennis constitute the routine of life. I call the houses chalets, because, seen from a distance, they reminded me of what I had observed in the neighbourhood of Geneva; but they have nothing of a chalet, in or about them, except their distant appearance. They are built mostly of bricks, and roofed with currugated iron, and are as independent of all ideas of architecture as are the fire-flies of all respect for Mr. Stokes' codified regulations. You may see a gable-window here, a gothic arch there, an Italian balcony elsewere, perhaps a Tuscan column in an old house in a nook, but they are mere accidents, brought together by chance or caprice, but not the result of any systematic design and association. Brick, too, seems to have been used everywhere, when stone was to be had for the merest digging. The only exception I noticed was in the case of the palace designed for the Vice-king of Bangaland That palace, a small one, is built of partially dressed stones, in the old English style, and is altogether the loveliest mansion in the place, and its situation on the crest of what in the cacophonous, unpoetic jargon of Cloudland is called Birch-hill, gives it a charm, which the finest buildings in lowland cities cannot command. Nor should I omit reference to the gay parterres which set it off to so much advantage. Cloudland is the land of flowers. Not to advert to the far-famed Rhododendrons which are not in season in July, there are flowers in lavish abundance everywhere—flowers of all the hues of the rainbow, and of many shades besides; and nowhere are they more abundant, or more beautifully laid out, than in the parterres around this palace. Dahlias of every hue, *plena superba*, and the gorgeous agapanthus challenge admiration on every side, while the more modest but no less beautiful fuschias and geraniums shed their bewitching influence in the conservatories. And to crown all, the aroma of the unbounded hospitality of the genial and kind-hearted master of the house (so different from his predecessor of turtle soup renown) to all classes of his countrymen, rich or poor, gives to the palace an attraction which none who has experienced it can forget. Think not, Mr. Editor, that the said aroma has had any influence in imbuing my pen with the spirit of praise; my monastic vows keep me away from such carnal attractions, and it is only the love of all that is beautiful in nature or art that inspires my admiration.

One peculiarity of Cloudland is entire absence of wheeled conveyances of a respectable kind. The superhuman beings who dwell there delight to walk on the clouds, their better halves indulging in a very unpoetical sort of litter, which in Calcutta Mr. Lambert reserves, under the name of stretchers, for those bibulous persons who mistake public thoroughfares for bedsteads. In Cloudland it is called a Dandi. It has nothing æsthetic about it, and certainly the Peries who patronise it, do not set themselves to the best advantage in its hammock-like folds. I got into one of them, just for the fun of it, but I must frankly confess I did not feel very comfortable.

Walking on masses of clouds, now ascending and now descending, but never on level ground, suggests the idea of an unconscionably long flight of steep steps, but the celestial fire above adverted to thoroughly consumes all sense of fatigue, and one may tramp over miles at midday, as I did, without in any way feeling the worse for it. The fire, too, it would seem, allays all sensation of hunger, for the market is held only once a week, on Sundays, and on other days the people do well enough without any. The shops are full, however, of wines and beer and whisky, and the wants of little ones are abundantly met with a plentiful supply of "Winslow's soothing syrup." And yet it is not to be supposed that the celestials always do without solid food, for when they take to it, they take it in no gingerly spirit. I was once there at a grand feast, and I saw the tables groaning under all the delicacies of the earth, and the guests certainly were not remiss in doing justice to them. While I sat watching, my next neighbour helped himself to two plates of turkey, then a plate of ham and turkey, and then ham alone, followed by a game pie, meat glace, a few slices of goose, half a dozen different kinds of sweeties, and pineapple and mangoes. He had too a dozen tazzas of simpkin to wash them down, and all these for a lunch. Speeches followed the feast, and they lasted for an hour or more, and during the time my neighbour, while cheering with great enthusiasm, kept his jaws at work by way of diversion with preserved fruits. Ah! how I envied what Byron somewhere calls the "dura illia majora!" "Oh, ye hard guts of reapers!" The occasion for the feast was the opening of an iron road to Cloudland,—a tortuous, serpentine, ever-winding path which, at every turn, threatens the passenger with a *facilis descensus averni* of a thousand feet or so down a khud; but the Jehus who guide the cars on this path are not in any way related to Phæton, and the king of Bangaland very justly ridiculed the idea of "singed babies and blinded parents." None has had yet the facile descent so vividly described by the poet. For my part I heartily enjoyed the run up and down this road, and had I anything softer than a narrow pine board to sit upon for six hours together, I should have liked it better. The road is a tiny one, the cars are tiny, the locomotives tiny, but these tiny little things, like Hercules in a bassinet, or a Faure battery for the storage of electric force, or Airiel Puck, or Jack in the nursery story with his bean-stalk and ladder, are destined to achieve great wonders. They have already overcome great distance and barriers of unsurmountable mountains, and brought Cloudland within easy reach of the mortals of Bengal, and the time is not far distant when the commerce of Central Asia will be invited to the plains through their instrumentality, and who knows but even I may one day behold my coy Alice in her Wonderland. All honor to the gentleman to whom is due the idea and the execution of this road.

REVIEWS.

The Indo-Aryans, their history, creed, and practice. By Ramchandra Ghosha, F. R. S. L. Member of the Royal Asiatic Society, London.

THERE are so few Indian students who explore the field of the ancient literature of their country, who are competent to utilize the rich heritage bequeathed by their ancestors, and who are capable of following the constructive method of the West by building up the story of the ancient civilization of India with the scattered materials of legends, tales, traditions, poems, and anecdotes that we consider those, who do turn their attention to this subject, deserving of special encouragement. On this principle we hail with great pleasure the appearance of the little book, which heads this notice. The author in his preface says, "the precise object

is to present to the reader certain facts regarding the history, creed and practice of the Indo-Aryans, as far as these can be obtained from a study of ancient Sanskrit Literature." He thus describes the method he has followed in constructing the history of the Indo-Aryans. He writes: "The Vedas are the gigantic labors of the Hindu mind. They have already attracted the attention of some of the best scholars of Europe and America. They are guidebooks in all researches into the civilization of the ancient Hindus, on which history cannot throw the least light; though it must be admitted that the information to be gleaned from them is very scanty. Indeed, India never produced a Xenophon or a Thucydides; but nevertheless history can be built up from the materials which lie buried in those ancient documents, by simply distinguishing facts from the shoals of mystical legends and mythological drapery which are found to envelop them. The age in which the Vedas and their appendages were composed, has exercised the blandest influence upon all succeeding periods of Indian history; every later branch of literature is closely connected with the Vaidik traditions; the religious and moral ideas have been derived from them; the later mythology has also developed out of them; and the Hindu life, in all its aspect, has been moulded by old traditionary precepts." So our author has made the Vedas the basis of the edifice he has erected. He has discussed Vaidik theogony and mythology, and the conceptions of the Deity, cosmogony, doctrines of future life and ceremonials of worship as inculcated in the Vedas. He has dwelt on the general character of the Vedas, the Vaidik dialect and the chronology of the Vaidik age. He has gone into the division of the Vedas into Mantras and Brahmanas, and the proper meaning of Sakha, Charana, and Parishad, and treated of the Aranyakas, the Upanishads, and the distinction between Sruti and Smriti, the peculiarities of the Sutras, the Vedangas, and the origin and general character of the Pratisakhyas. And lastly he has given us his ideas about the origin of Buddhism and the knowledge of writing in ancient India. The range of our author's subjects it will be thus seen is very wide, and he has brought much labour and research to bear upon his work. He is of course chiefly indebted to the Western scholars who have preceded him in this task, but he has gone to his work in a praise-worthy spirit, and we hope he will go on as he has begun.

Municipal Work in India; or Hints on Sanitation, General Conservancy, and Improvement in Municipalities, Towns, and Villages, By R. C. Sterndale Vice-Chairman of the Municipality, of the Suburbs of Calcutta. Thacker Spink and Co., Calcutta.

MR. STERNDALE, the Vice-Chairman of the Suburban Municipality, is peculiarly qualified to write on the subject, which heads this notice. He has been we believe for more than ten years the executive head of the Suburban Municipality. He has in his own person combined the functions of engineer, health-officer, road-maker and administrative chief, and had, therefore, many opportunities in knowing the municipal wants and requirements of the people subject to his control. He has also it appears studied municipal work in its various aspects and ramifications. But he has we are sorry to note brought a spirit to bear upon his task not quite friendly to the progressive development of municipal institutions in this country. He begins by saying that "it is not uncommonly asserted that municipal institutions are foreign to and unsuited to the country, but those who thus argue ignore alike tradition, history, and facts. On the contrary, municipal institutions, pure and simple, were amongst the fundamental systems of Government laid down by Menu, the earliest of Hindu lawgivers. He quotes Sir George Campbell who said, "I am myself convinced," "that, in spite of difficulties and objections, municipal self-government is not foreign to this country, but inherent to it, being the ancient rule and habit of the Hindu race." But how would he work? He condemns the present Bengal Government for its repressive spirit. He quotes some remarks of Mr. Mackenzie, the Bengal Secretary, and says, "it must be confessed that these arguments are somewhat on a par with the action of the faded maternal beauty who clings to her youth and keeps her grown up daughters in short frocks, for fear people should guess how old *they* are and draw conclusions; but still I fear we must admit that they have reason, as things are at the present. Before any change can be hoped for in the present regime, before the Government can safely loose the reins of control, a radical change must come over the spirit of the dream." One would think from this that Mr. Sterndale would advocate liberal municipal institutions, but nothing of the kind. He says:

But that any change for the better would be effected by a system of election *is a fallacy*, and it is a fallacy which no body honestly believes in. The *people* do not seek it, nor desire it. They are in fact *utterly* indifferent on the subject, and the sensational stump oratory of a few self-seeking, self-nominated, would-be representatives of the rate-payers, no more represents the real and true aspirations of the mass of the people of Bengal or of any town in the province, or of the intelligent and respectable portion of the populace than the three tailors of Tooley Street did those of 'the people of England.' The spurious popular agitations that from time to time become a local nine days' wonder, are like the working of beer in a brewer's vat,—the froth and scum all work to the top, while the only part that is of any worth lies hidden for the time beneath the evanescent bubbles, but it is only the ignorant and inexperienced who consider that the goodness and strength of the liquor lies in the froth; the knowing ones blow it off the surface before quaffing the amber liquid; and so with the bulk of the sham representatives who pose as exponents of the popular feeling at people's rights and rate-payers' association meetings. As old Congreve says truly—

"Dull rogues affect the politician's part
And learn to nod and smile and shrug with art:
Who nothing has to lose, the war bewails,
And he who nothing pays, at taxes rails."

Such men are no more to be regarded as representatives of the popular voice than Dr. Kinealy and his rabble followers were as those of the English people, or the 'Police News' and other 'Penny dreadfuls' are to be considered as fairly representing the British Press; and amongst no class are their pretensions treated with greater scorn and contempt than by the really sound and thinking portion of their own countrymen, who see through their motives, and understand the worthlessness of their pretensions.

Yet *these* are the men who would be elected were the Government weakly to give way to the clamour raised and fomented by themselves and the small and insignificant section of the Press with which they are connected, or are able to influence; and this not because they are the fittest men, or that they would be the chosen of the people, but simply because none but themselves would care to canvas an apathetic constituency, who, caring nothing about the matter would give their votes to the first man who asked for them, and without comprehending what they were asked for, or what they were giving. The consequences would be such as neither the Government, nor the intelligent portion of the inhabitants, could contemplate with satisfaction, for instead of the management of municipal affairs being in the hands of men of standing, position, and respectability, men to whom the people of the towns would look up to with respect, it would fall into those of designing intriguers, office clerks, idlers, and the third-rate legal practitioners of the local courts. This would be a consummation certainly not to be desired.

We are sorry for Mr. Sterndale. He professes to be a friend of progressive municipal institutions in this country, and yet he would keep the people in matters municipal in perpetual leading strings. There could be no real municipal self-government, if the people should have no voice in the management of municipal affairs, and the present system of nomination is not calculated to secure that voice. The present Municipal Committees are shams. If Mr. Sterndale has not been able to appreciate their true character, he has not then profitted in the least by his ten years' experience.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HAVE received a copy of a memorial of certain residents of Killah Banki in the Tributary Mehals of Orissa protesting against a Bill introduced in the Governor General's Council for removing Banki from the list of scheduled districts and bringing it under the regular system of administration. The objections taken are that the people are too poor to afford the cost of regular administration. Should, however, the Government determine to regulationise Banki, the petitioners suggest that it may be annexed to Cuttack and not to Khurdah, and they have adduced strong reasons in favour of the first. The petition is well argued and deserves the attentive consideration of Government.

WE HAVE RECEIVED a complaint from a native passenger on the Darjeeling Tramway that though he had purchased a second class ticket he could not get a seat in a second class carriage, and that though he was asked by a native officer to go in a covered trolly, he was ejected from it by a European guard, and made to go all his way exposed to rain. He has forwarded his complaint to the Secretaries to the Tramway Company, who will doubtless enquire into the matter. As the Tramway is in its infancy, we ought to make due allowance for its shortcomings, but the Company ought to see that native passengers are not insulted by their men as our correspondent says, he has been.

GOSSAIN DURGAPORE is an important village in the district of Nuddea. It is the centre of much business. It is included in the sub-division of Kooshtea. It is about 16 miles from the sub-divisional head-quarters. The inhabitants of Gossain Durgapore have submitted a petition to Government stating that as the registration office is held at Kooshtea they are put to much inconvenience, trouble, and expense, and that consequently many deeds are not registered, which would otherwise be registered. The petitioners have made out a good case, and we hope their prayer will be complied with.

AT THE LAST anniversary meeting of the Bhowanipore Young men's Association, Sir Richard Garth, who presided on the occasion, stated some hard practical truths about our educational system. He pointed out two defects. Firstly, he said, "you are, as I said just now, stuffed very full of a vast amount of book learning;—but you are not *educated* in other things at least as valuable, in the same way that young men in England are at our large schools and universities. *Mere teaching* is one thing, *education* is another. Boys go to schools and colleges in England to be made men of; to learn habits of obedience, self-control, energy and subordination, to acquire principles of honour and trustfulness, and above all to learn the proper mode of dealing with their fellow men." There is much truth in this observation. But this defect arises from want of sympathy between the teacher and the taught. The teacher not unfrequently thinks that his task is done when he stuffs his pupil with a quantity of book-knowledge. The other defect is that the education given in this country is not sufficiently practical, but it arises from the neglect of Government. If the Government will give a practical turn to education, our boys will readily avail themselves of it.

WE LATELY published a letter enquiring whether invalid lakhiraj tenures are liable to assessment under the Local Rates Regulation, and whether the landholder has the power to recover any portion of such assessment from the holders of such tenures We hear that a local authority has ruled that "the landholder is under Section 5 of the Regulation, liable for the rate to be imposed on such tenures, and that the holders of such tenures, not being tenants as defined in Section 2 clause 4 of the Regulation, the landholder cannot under Section 17 of the Regulation recover any share of such rate from them." This is quite anomalous. We hope the Chief Commissioner will rectify the anomaly.

MAGISTERIAL VAGARIES AGAIN! We give below the following abstract of a letter we have received from Dinagepore:

We have here in Dinagepore a Magistrate of the rampant class. A case has lately occurred which will show of what stuff our district officer is made. Last week one Baboo Anund Mohan Mitter, from Mymensing, visited this station. He is an author, perhaps not much known. He proposed to deliver a lecture on the Past and Present of Bengal for the edification of students. The Head-Master of the zillah school was requested to lend the use of the school hall for the lecture and that officer referred the application to the Magistrate. Mr. Coxhead refused the use of the school house to the lecturer on the plea that he was not known to him. The Deputy Inspector of schools on the assurance that the lecture will be on a purely educational subject allowed the use of the Model School House, which by the rules of the department is absolutely at his disposal. The lecture passed off quietly and proved a tame affair after all. There was no politics or any thing controversial in the lecture. It touched upon a few truisms such as the necessity of physical and moral education for the welfare of the rising generation. The Magistrate when he heard of the lecture was in a fury. First he called upon one of his deputies, Baboo Umachurn Banerji, to explain how he had the hardihood to attend a lecture which he had interdicted. The Deputy Inspector of schools was at once removed from his temporary appointment of Deputy Inspector and further suspended from his permanent post of Sub-Inspector for six months, at the expiration of which the Inspector has been requested to degrade the sub to a lower grade. The Inspector was further desired to suspend the Head Pundit of the Model School and to place the Model School house under the Magistrate's control. The lecturer has narrowly escaped arrest.

WITH REFERENCE to certain statements contained in our report of the meeting of the Senate of the Calcutta University held on the 9th instant we are requested to make the following corrections:

(1) It is said in the paragraph referred to, that Mr. Anundmohun Bose had in Committee signed the report recommending the principle of alternative courses. As a matter of fact, he did not sign or approve the report, simply because he was not a member of the Committee.

(2) It is further said that Mr. A. M. Bose had supported that principle at the Faculty meeting. Well, the fact is that by both note and speech he *opposed* it.

(3) Mr. Robertson is said in the report to have *supported* at the Senate meeting the principle of alternative courses recommended by Mr. Croft; the fact being that he both spoke and voted against the adoption of that principle.

A CORRESPONDENT thus telegraphs from Bombay :

"The Hindu Maharaj Vrijeshji Virjnathji of Jamnuggur, has been sentenced by Mr. Aston, Judicial Assistant to the Political Agent of Kattywar, to two years simple imprisonment, and fined Rs. 2,000 for connection with the recent postal banghy robbery. Much excitement prevails among the Vaishnav community of Bombay. A petition has been sent to the Government of India, and prayers are being offered to-day in the temples in behalf of the prisoner."

On behalf of the Maharaj objection was taken to the jurisdiction of the Political Agent. The Postmaster is a British subject, but the Maharaj claims to be a subject of the Jam of Nowanuggur, Chief of a first-class State in Kattywar, who possesses full civil and criminal jurisdiction, including the power of life and death, over his own people. It was, of course, incompetent for the Nowanuggur Courts to try the Postmaster, and as it would have been inconvenient to try the prisoners separately, and, moreover, as it was Her Majesty's mail that had been robbed, it was, says the *Bombay Gazette*, arranged between the Political officers and His Highness the Jam that the whole case should be made over to the Chief Court of the Political Agent in Kattywar for trial. Numerous petitions were presented to the Governor of Bombay against the assumed jurisdiction, but His Excellency in Council has rejected the petitions. An appeal has been made to His Excellency the Viceroy on the subject.

In the meantime the Maharaj has been convicted and sentenced to two years' simple imprisonment, and he is already undergoing this sentence. The Maharaj being a strict Hindu refuses to take food and water in the jail at the hands of the jail people. The followers of the Maharaj have petitioned the local authorities praying that the Maharaj may be allowed a separate cook to prepare his food, but we are sorry to learn that the prayer has been refused. The excitement among the Bunnias and Bhatteas is in consequence immense. The shops have been closed and business is at a stand-still. Whatever the law as to jurisdiction and whatever the merits of the case, regarding which we will express no opinion till we see the papers in the case, we submit that the prayer for a separate cook was reasonable enough and ought to have been complied with. Such indulgence is not unknown in our jails, and when it is sought on the grounds of caste and religion it ought to be granted. In England first class prisoners we believe are allowed to have their home comforts at their own expense. Was not Colonel Baker shewn this indulgence ? The end of justice has been attained by imprisoning the Maharaj, a separate arrangement for food would not be inconsistent with it.

MR. J. DACOSTA has again addressed the London Press regarding the Bengal Rent Bill. In a thoughtful letter to the *London Chronicle*, after recounting the history of the Bill, he writes :

The Commission submitted in June last the Bengal Rent Bill, referred to in my previous letter, and a lengthy report on the subject. Of the seven members who composed the commission, however, three objected to portions of the report and the bill and the member in charge of the bill himself stated that "there were points in both of which he did not approve." An examination of the bill itself will show it to be a vicious measure, violating recognized principles of political economy, as well as the dictates of common justice and fairness ; and the bill No. 2 subsequently framed is almost identical in its chief aims. The original idea of facilitating the realisation of rents would seem to have been abandoned, the most effective feature in the proposed measure being the transfer of valuable proprietary rights from the owners of land to their tenants. This might have been intelligible, if not justifiable, had the bill been intended for those provinces in India where the tenants are known to be in a chronic state of poverty and indebtedness : but evidently there has been no intention of affording relief where relief is so much needed, seeing that the measure is destined to apply only to the comparatively prosperous districts of Bengal ; to such districts, in fact, as those of which the present Lieutenant-Governor said, after an official visit : "I find them (the cultivating tenants) as prosperous, as independent, and as comfortable as the peasantry, I believe, of any country in the world—well fed, well clothed, free to enjoy the full benefit of their own labours, and to hold their own and obtain prompt redress for any wrong."

In conclusion, certain important provisions of the measure which the authorities in India are endeavouring to enact seem contrary to accepted principles of policy and justice, and I shall be glad if you are induced to advocate the appointment of a Royal Commission, or the adoption of any other mode which may seem preferable, for eliciting such information as would enable the Secretary of State to form a correct judgment on the nature and the extent of the legislation needed under the circumstances of the case.

We have always advocated some such Commission of Enquiry. No violent revolution in the land laws, such as the Rent Bill contemplates, would have been thought of in the United Kingdom, without a full enquiry into the subject. But India is not England !

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

London, 17th June 1881.

The patience with which Mr. Gladstone is carrying the Land Bill through Committee has attracted general attention and won all but general admiration. The grand old man never showed more clearly the indomitable spirit that actuates him, or that marvellous power over detail, in which he stands unrivalled among living men.

Mr. Forster showed like determination on Monday night in replying to questions as to the conduct of the military. He had given orders he said that the police and the military were to avoid firing as long as possible, but they were to do their duty and maintain the law. This was received with cheers from both sides of the House. The Irish members could make nothing of it in any way, and certainly the declaration was one of mercy to the people, who have very nearly reached the point where bloodshed will be inevitable.

The Tories are not going to make much of Mr Bradlaugh and the oath. The nation is with him—not in his atheism or Malthusianism, but in his right to the place to which he has been elected. Meeting after meeting in the great towns have pronounced in his favour. I believe more persons have opposed him on the Malthusian ground than on that of Atheism. There is something repugnant in most people in the ideas which are said to be stated in the book which a police prosecution did so much to advertise. The English people, as a people, never took kindly to the views of Dr. Malthus as to population, and consequently never mastered his remarkably clear views on many other subjects. The general opinion is, that "when God sends mouths he sends something to fill them with"—often quite a mistake of the persons who use the phrase, as you and I have seen in India, but still a strong view especially among the more seriously Englishmen, who perhaps never consider that what God sends man too often destroys.

I dare say you will not hear very much of a very important division come to by the House of Commons the other night. One night last year the House resolved that legislation with respect to the liquor laws in the direction of local option—that is, of giving the ratepayers the power to grant or refuse licences to public houses was desirable. Sir Wilfred Lawson has now followed this up by a motion which really means asking Government to give effect to the previous decision of the House, and he has carried his motion by a good majority. In Lord Beaconsfield's House no such vote would have been possible. The present Liberal Majority was gained in spite of the publicans. I am not by any means sure that the plan of placing the power in the hands of the ratepayers is a good one, but something is needed to break the power of the drink-sellers—a power which has long controlled the election of many places. The last Election meant doom to that power in politics. The Government, Mr. Bright said, are not prepared at present to take up the subject ; and no wonder with the mighty questions resting on them.

But it must come. The great brewers and spirit-sellers have each so many mines of wealth that no individual has any chance of opposing them, when they demand a fresh license. That the moral sense of the nation is roused, however, these two votes show, and when we remember that they are the votes of a House elected on the broad household suffrage there is all the greater significance in them.

Speaking of representation, would it not be worth your while appealing to Parliament for some sort of representation in the House of Commons, and why not also in the House of Lords? I believe you would get it if the subject were wisely handled. Of course I do not mean popular representation—that is out of the question. But how many Princes and Chiefs would hesitate to trust their interests to so wise and just and vigorous a man as say, Sir Dinkur Rao was twenty years ago? Three or four such men would serve the best interests of India and would also be of immense value to England in a moral as well as a political sense. I am speaking of what I think practicable.

Pray do not think that I am reflecting on those of my own countrymen who are speaking regularly and warmly for India. I do not think I ever heard men speak with greater earnestness of purpose than some at the rooms of the East India Association, and the Indian Association of which Miss. Manning is the guiding spirit is alive with the same earnestness. The men in the former instance are in many cases men of the widest experience of India and men who might be presumed to have a selfish interest in opposing any such representation as that to which I venture to refer. I am greatly mistaken if they would not be among the first to welcome a representation of India's own sons.

Every sensible man in England knows that the present relations of England and India cannot be permanent. The question is what relations can be formed that will be if not permanent, at least long-enduring? No Englishman can serve you as a man like Sir Dinkur Rao could, if Sir Dinkur had had such a duty twenty years ago in Parliament. A wise man, who knew that to be useful a speech should be opportune, and that a short speech comprising all a man has to say is better than a long one would do vast good to India. Mr. Fawcett once informed me that a young Hindoo student who spoke during the election struggle at Brighton made a speech which not more than half a dozen men in the House of Commons could have surpassed, or indeed equalled, if called upon to speak on the spur of the moment, as he was. Still, I am not referring to mere eloquence; I do not value it as some people do, for beauty or grace of language. Some of the best men in Parliament are not eloquent in the usually understood sense ; Sir Dinkur Rao never would have been so. What is needed is a grave, righteous, and firm statement—the very truth, neither more nor less ; and I think there are questions relating, say, to Oude that only need to be firmly gravely and righteously stated to have all England—all that is best and most honourable in England—on the side of justice.

You have a powerful Association, and it has done admirable work. Could you not develope some simple plan for the representation of India in Parliament ? I know the difficulties. I know also, however, that there are gentlemen in India whom no ballot box, or show of hand is needed to designate as the true leaders of the time. Sir Madhava Rao was not elected. Neither was the First Prince of Travancore, (now somewhat higher,) who had the courage as a young man to say, "gentlemen, I am not Christian," and the high-bred courtesy to instruct the young of his people as once our Alfred did.

Again, I believe that if Dr. Sircar made one speech at a meeting of the British Association, or the Social Science Association the entire relations of India to England would be altered —revolutionized. Babu Keshub Chunder Sen fell chiefly into the hands of the religious bodies. There is a great secular element of Society which he never reached. His great predecessor who now lies in Bristol cemetary, and the noble and public spirited man who followed and marked the last resting place of the self-denying teacher more nearly reached the secular heart of England. A man who came as a Scientific man purely ; who had no relation to any sects orthodox or heterodox would have great influence.

I throw this out as a mere hint, I think you know that my motive, at all events, is not one of an ignoble kind, that I can have no self-interest in the matter as between India and England or between England and history.

I have read during these late May meetings some missionary speeches which have almost made my blood curdle —speeches as false as hell in the impressions they conveyed, though possibly accurate to some extent as to the mere words used. My mind has gone back to some gentlemen whom I met in India, and I have more than once or twice thought that if they use such speech they would be likely to wonder whether they were not in dreamland. Padre Long, you know, is not of the class of men who talk such nonsense. Indeed, I have read and heard sillier speeches from officers in the Army or in the Civil Service than from any missionaries, though missionaries can at times exaggerate beautifully—that is disgracefully.

Vigorous attempts are being made to excite the people against the Government as to the peace in the Transvaal. Meanwhile Mr. Gladstone has all his energies directed to the Land Bill, looking neither right nor left from the path of that primary duty. I believe all the Transvaal agitation will split on one rock, as the Candahar agitation too split on the same rock—the confidence of the nation in the Government—in the Premier, in Lord Hartington, Lord Granville, in Mr. Bright, Mr. Forster, Mr. Fawcett, and others, the foremost progressive statesmen of the age—men who never would have gagged your infant press or devised and carried out the false policy of the Afghan War. To India in particular it is of the first moment that Mr. Gladstone may long retain power. Ireland at present stops the way of useful legislation, but if much cannot be done in the direction of "legislative right" nothing at all events will intentionally be done in the direction of "legislative wrong" by the Government in England. I should be among the last to assail the character of Lord Beconsfield. He had great talents, and few prejudices—none with respect to race or creed. But his policy in India will not stand the test of fair criticism, and assuredly it will be condemned by history.

Have you observed what a mark, Mr. T. D. Macfarlane, late of Calcutta is making in the House of Commons? This is one of the most solid new reputations of the present Parliament. Mr. Macfarlane never speaks without having something to say, and what he says is said forcibly and tersely. His career is well worth watching. I question that the House contains an abler practical man, or a man less likely to "go to extremes" in politics.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN THE WASTING DISEASES OF CHILDREN.—Dr. G. Saunders, C. B., late Deputy-Inspector-General Army Hospitals, Superintendent London Medical Mission, writes :—"I have used Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil extensively among the sick poor of St. Giles's and consider it a valuable remedy, especially in the Wasting Diseases of Children." Dr. Stavely King, Physician to the Metropolitan Free Hospital, writes :—"I can very conscientiously testify to the superior qualities of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil. I have employed it with great advantage in cases of Mesenteric and Pulmonary Tubercle, and in the Atrophic Diseases of children." Dr. R. C. Croft, author of "Handbook for the Nursery," writes :—"I have tried Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, and find that it contains all the properties which render the Oil so efficacious. I find, moreover, that many patients prefer it to the Pale Oils, and are able to retain it more comfortably. It is almost a specific in many of the Diseases peculiar to Infancy and Childhood, and I have seen marked benefit produced by its use." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co, 77 Strand, London

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COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 16th July, 1881.

There has hardly been any improvement in our commercial markets during the present week to distinguish it from those that have preceded it, on the contrary the feeling to operate has been less strong and transactions in consequence have been confined within narrow limits.

Cotton Goods.—This market has not yet succeeded to attract attention of the trade, although the assuring news of rains having fallen over the various parts of the country has been received. Owing to large stocks still remaining unsold in the hands of dealers some sales have been effected in wide Grey Shirting, but for forward deliveries.

Yarns.—Import qualities continued dull, some sales it is true were reported, but at sacrificing rates, whilst country manufactured kinds found buyers even at slight advanced rates.

Exports have occupied better attention than imports, but want of free supplies accompained by *high prices* have in-

is to present to the reader certain facts regarding the history, creed and practice of the Indo-Aryans, as far as these can be obtained from a study of ancient Sanskrit Literature." He thus describes the method he has followed in constructing the history of the Indo-Aryans. He writes: "The Vedas are the gigantic labors of the Hindu mind. They have already attracted the attention of some of the best scholars of Europe and America. They are guidebooks in all researches into the civilization of the ancient Hindus, on which history cannot throw the least light; though it must be admitted that the information to be gleaned from them is very scanty. Indeed, India never produced a Xenophon or a Thucydides; but nevertheless history can be built up from the materials which lie buried in those ancient documents, by simply distinguishing facts from the shoals of mystical legends and mythological drapery which are found to envelop them. The age in which the Vedas and their appendages were composed, has exercised the blandest influence upon all succeeding periods of Indian history; every later branch of literature is closely connected with the Vaidik traditions; the religious and moral ideas have been derived from them; the later mythology has also developed out of them; and the Hindu life, in all its aspect, has been moulded by old traditionary precepts." So our author has made the Vedas the basis of the edifice he has erected. He has discussed Vaidik theogony and mythology, and the conceptions of the Deity, cosmogony, doctrines of future life and ceremonials of worship as inculcated in the Vedas. He has dwelt on the general character of the Vedas, the Vaidik dialect and the chronology of the Vaidik age. He has gone into the division of the Vedas into Mantras and Brahmanas, and the proper meaning of Sakha, Charana, and Parishad, and treated of the Aranyakas, the Upanishads, and the distinction between Sruti and Smriti, the peculiarities of the Sutras, the Vedangas, and the origin and general character of the Pratisakhyas. And lastly he has given us his ideas about the origin of Buddhism and the knowledge of writing in ancient India. The range of our author's subjects it will be thus seen is very wide, and he has brought much labour and research to bear upon his work. He is of course chiefly indebted to the Western scholars who have preceded him in this task, but he has gone to his work in a praise-worthy spirit, and we hope he will go on as he has begun.

Municipal Work in India; or Hints on Sanitation, General Conservancy, and Improvement in Municipalities, Towns, and Villages, By R. C. Sterndale Vice-Chairman of the Municipality, of the Suburbs of Calcutta. Thacker Spink and Co., Calcutta.

MR. STERNDALE, the Vice-Chairman of the Suburban Municipality, is peculiarly qualified to write on the subject, which heads this notice. He has been we believe for more than ten years the executive head of the Suburban Municipality. He has in his own person combined the functions of engineer, health-officer, road-maker and administrative chief, and had, therefore, many opportunities in knowing the municipal wants and requirements of the people subject to his control. He has also it appears studied municipal work in its various aspects and ramifications. But he has we are sorry to note brought a spirit to bear upon his task not quite friendly to the progressive development of municipal institutions in this country. He begins by saying that "it is not uncommonly asserted that municipal institutions are foreign to and unsuited to the country, but those who thus argue ignore alike tradition, history, and facts. On the contrary, municipal institutions, pure and simple, were amongst the fundamental systems of Government laid down by Menu, the earliest of Hindu lawgivers. He quotes Sir George Campbell who said, "I am myself convinced," "that, in spite of difficulties and objections, municipal self-government is not foreign to this country, but inherent to it, being the ancient rule and habit of the Hindu race." But how would he work? He condemns the present Bengal Government for its repressive spirit. He quotes some remarks of Mr. Mackenzie, the Bengal Secretary, and says, "it must be confessed that these arguments are somewhat on a par with the action of the faded maternal beauty who clings to her youth and keeps her grown up daughters in short frocks, for fear people should guess how old *they* are and draw conclusions; but still I fear we must admit that they have reason, as things are at the present. Before any change can be hoped for in the present regime, before the Government can safely loose the reins of control, a radical change must come over the spirit of the dream." One would think from this that Mr. Sterndale would advocate liberal municipal institutions, but nothing of the kind. He says:

> But that any change for the better would be effected by a system of election *is a fallacy*, and it is a fallacy which no body honestly believes in. The *people* do not seek it, nor desire it. They are in fact *utterly* indifferent on the subject, and the sensational stump oratory of a few self-seeking, self-nominated, would-be representatives of the rate-payers, no more represents the real and true aspirations of the mass of the people of Bengal or of any town in the province, or of the intelligent and respectable portion of the populace than the three tailors of Tooley Street did those of 'the people of England.' The spurious popular agitations that from time to time become a local nine days' wonder, are like the working of beer in a brewer's vat,—the froth and scum all work to the top, while the only part that is of any worth lies hidden for the time beneath the evanescent bubbles, but it is only the ignorant and inexperienced who consider that the goodness and strength of the liquor lies in the froth; the knowing ones blow it off the surface before quaffing the amber liquid; and so with the bulk of the sham representatives who pose as exponents of the popular feeling at people's rights and rate-payers' association meetings. As old Congreve says truly—
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> "Dull rogues affect the politician's part
> And learn to nod and smile and shrug with art:
> Who nothing has to lose, the war bewails,
> And he who nothing pays, at taxes rails."
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> Such men are no more to be regarded as representatives of the popular voice than Dr. Kinealy and his rabble followers were as those of the English people, or the 'Police News' and other 'Penny dreadfuls' are to be considered as fairly representing the British Press; and amongst no class are their pretensions treated with greater scorn and contempt than by the really sound and thinking portion of their own countrymen, who see through their motives, and understand the worthlessness of their pretensions.
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> Yet *these* are the men who would be elected were the Government weakly to give way to the clamour raised and fomented by themselves and the small and insignificant section of the Press with which they are connected, or are able to influence; and this not because they are the fittest men, or that they would be the chosen of the people, but simply because none but themselves would care to canvas an apathetic constituency, who, caring nothing about the matter would give their votes to the first man who asked for them, and without comprehending what they were asked for, or what they were giving. The consequences would be such as neither the Government, nor the intelligent portion of the inhabitants, could contemplate with satisfaction, for instead of the management of municipal affairs being in the hands of men of standing, position, and respectability, men to whom the people of the towns would look up to with respect, it would fall into those of designing intriguers, office clerks, idlers, and the third-rate legal practitioners of the local courts. This would be a consummation certainly not to be desired.

We are sorry for Mr. Sterndale. He professes to be a friend of progressive municipal institutions in this country, and yet he would keep the people in matters municipal in perpetual leading strings. There could be no real municipal self-government, if the people should have no voice in the management of municipal affairs, and the present system of nomination is not calculated to secure that voice. The present Municipal Committees are shams. If Mr. Sterndale has not been able to appreciate their true character, he has not then profitted in the least by his ten years' experience.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HAVE received a copy of a memorial of certain residents of Killah Banki in the Tributary Mehals of Orissa protesting against a Bill introduced in the Governor General's Council for removing Banki from the list of scheduled districts and bringing it under the regular system of administration. The objections taken are that the people are too poor to afford the cost of regular administration. Should, however, the Government determine to regulationise Banki, the petitioners suggest that it may be annexed to Cuttack and not to Khurdah, and they have adduced strong reasons in favour of the first. The petition is well argued and deserves the attentive consideration of Government.

WE HAVE RECEIVED a complaint from a native passenger on the Darjeeling Tramway that though he had purchased a second class ticket he could not get a seat in a second class carriage, and that though he was asked by a native officer to go in a covered trolly, he was ejected from it by a European guard, and made to go all his way exposed to rain. He has forwarded his complaint to the Secretaries to the Tramway Company, who will doubtless enquire into the matter. As the Tramway is in its infancy, we ought to make due allowance for its shortcomings, but the Company ought to see that native passengers are not insulted by their men as our correspondent says, he has been.

GOSSAIN DURGAPORE is an important village in the district of Nuddea. It is the centre of much business. It is included in the sub-division of Kooshtea. It is about 16 miles from the sub-divisional head-quarters. The inhabitants of Gossain Durgapore have submitted a petition to Government stating that as the registration office is held at Kooshtea they are put to much inconvenience, trouble, and expense, and that consequently many deeds are not registered, which would otherwise be registered. The petitioners have made out a good case, and we hope their prayer will be complied with.

AT THE LAST anniversary meeting of the Bhowanipore Young men's Association, Sir Richard Garth, who presided on the occasion, stated some hard practical truths about our educational system. He pointed out two defects. Firstly, he said, "you are, as I said just now, stuffed very full of a vast amount of book learning;—but you are not *educated* in other things at least as valuable, in the same way that young men in England are at our large schools and universities. *Mere teaching* is one thing, *education* is another. Boys go to schools and colleges in England to be made men of; to learn habits of obedience, self-control, energy and subordination, to acquire principles of honour and trustfulness, and above all to learn the proper mode of dealing with their fellow men." There is much truth in this observation. But this defect arises from want of sympathy between the teacher and the taught. The teacher not unfrequently thinks that his task is done when he stuffs his pupil with a quantity of book-knowledge. The other defect is that the education given in this country is not sufficiently practical, but it arises from the neglect of Government. If the Government will give a practical turn to education, our boys will readily avail themselves of it.

WE LATELY published a letter enquiring whether invalid lakhiraj tenures are liable to assessment under the Local Rates Regulation, and whether the landholder has the power to recover any portion of such assessment from the holders of such tenures We hear that a local authority has ruled that "the landholder is under Section 5 of the Regulation, liable for the rate to be imposed on such tenures, and that the holders of such tenures, not being tenants as defined in Section 2 clause 4 of the Regulation, the landholder cannot under Section 17 of the Regulation recover any share of such rate from them." This is quite anomalous. We hope the Chief Commissioner will rectify the anomaly.

MAGISTERIAL VAGARIES AGAIN! We give below the following abstract of a letter we have received from Dinagepore:

> We have here in Dinagepore a Magistrate of the rampant class. A case has lately occurred which will show of what stuff our district officer is made. Last week one Baboo Anund Mohan Mitter, from Mymensing, visited this station. He is an author, perhaps not much known. He proposed to deliver a lecture on the Past and Present of Bengal for the edification of students. The Head-Master of the zillah school was requested to lend the use of the school hall for the lecture and that officer referred the application to the Magistrate. Mr. Coxhead refused the use of the school house to the lecturer on the plea that he was not known to him. The Deputy Inspector of schools on the assurance that the lecture will be on a purely educational subject allowed the use of the Model School House, which by the rules of the department is absolutely at his disposal. The lecture passed off quietly and proved a tame affair after all. There was no politics or any thing controversial in the lecture. It touched upon a few truisms such as the necessity of physical and moral education for the welfare of the rising generation. The Magistrate when he heard of the lecture was in a fury. First he called upon one of his deputies, Baboo Umacburn Banerji, to explain how he had the hardihood to attend a lecture which he had interdicted. The Deputy Inspector of schools was at once removed from his temporary appointment of Deputy Inspector and further suspended from his permanent post of Sub-Inspector for six months, at the expiration of which the Inspector has been requested to degrade the sub to a lower grade. The Inspector was further desired to suspend the Head Pundit of the Model School and to place the Model School house under the Magistrate's control. The lecturer has narrowly escaped arrest.

WITH REFERENCE to certain statements contained in our report of the meeting of the Senate of the Calcutta University held on the 9th instant we are requested to make the following corrections:

(1) It is said in the paragraph referred to, that Mr. Anundmohun Bose had in Committee signed the report recommending the principle of alternative courses. As a matter of fact, he did not sign or approve the report, simply because he was not a member of the Committee.

(2) It is further said that Mr. A. M. Bose had supported that principle at the Faculty meeting. Well, the fact is that by both note and speech he *opposed* it.

(3) Mr. Robertson is said in the report to have *supported* at the Senate meeting the principle of alternative courses recommended by Mr. Croft; the fact being that he both spoke and voted against the adoption of that principle.

A CORRESPONDENT thus telegraphs from Bombay:

"The Hindu Maharaj Vrijeshji Virjnathji of Jamnuggur, has been sentenced by Mr. Aston, Judicial Assistant to the Political Agent of Kattywar, to two years simple imprisonment, and fined Rs. 2,000 for connection with the recent postal banghy robbery. Much excitement prevails among the Vaishnav community of Bombay. A petition has been sent to the Government of India, and prayers are being offered to-day in the temples in behalf of the prisoner."

On behalf of the Maharaj objection was taken to the jurisdiction of the Political Agent. The Postmaster is a British subject, but the Maharaj claims to be a subject of the Jam of Nowanuggur, Chief of a first-class State in Kattywar, who possesses full civil and criminal jurisdiction, including the power of life and death, over his own people. It was, of course, incompetent for the Nowanuggur Courts to try the Postmaster, and as it would have been inconvenient to try the prisoners separately, and, moreover, as it was Her Majesty's mail that had been robbed, it was, says the *Bombay Gazette*, arranged between the Political officers and His Highness the Jam that the whole case should be made over to the Chief Court of the Political Agent in Kattywar for trial. Numerous petitions were presented to the Governor of Bombay against the assumed jurisdiction, but His Excellency in Council has rejected the petitions. An appeal has been made to His Excellency the Viceroy on the subject.

In the meantime the Maharaj has been convicted and sentenced to two years' simple imprisonment, and he is already undergoing this sentence. The Maharaj being a strict Hindu refuses to take food and water in the jail at the hands of the jail people. The followers of the Maharaj have petitioned the local authorities praying that the Maharaj may be allowed a separate cook to prepare his food, but we are sorry to learn that the prayer has been refused. The excitement among the Bunnias and Bhatteas is in consequence immense. The shops have been closed and business is at a stand-still. Whatever the law as to jurisdiction and whatever the merits of the case, regarding which we will express no opinion till we see the papers in the case, we submit that the prayer for a separate cook was reasonable enough and ought to have been complied with. Such indulgence is not unknown in our jails, and when it is sought on the grounds of caste and religion it ought to be granted. In England first class prisoners we believe are allowed to have their home comforts at their own expense. Was not Colonel Baker shewn this indulgence? The end of justice has been attained by imprisoning the Maharaj, a separate arrangement for food would not be inconsistent with it.

MR. J. DACOSTA has again addressed the London Press regarding the Bengal Rent Bill. In a thoughtful letter to the *London Chronicle*, after recounting the history of the Bill, he writes:

The Commission submitted in June last the Bengal Rent Bill, referred to in my previous letter, and a lengthy report on the subject. Of the seven members who composed the commission, however, three objected to portions of the report and the bill and the member in charge of the bill himself stated that "there were points in both of which he did not approve." An examination of the bill itself will show it to be a vicious measure, violating recognized principles of political economy, as well as the dictates of common justice and fairness; and the bill No. 2 subsequently framed is almost identical in its chief aims. The original idea of facilitating the realisation of rents would seem to have been abandoned, the most effective feature in the proposed measure being the transfer of valuable proprietary rights from the owners of land to their tenants. This might have been intelligible, if not justifiable, had the bill been intended for those provinces in India where the tenants are known to be in a chronic state of poverty and indebtedness: but evidently there has been no intention of affording relief where relief is so much needed, seeing that the measure is destined to apply only to the comparatively prosperous districts of Bengal; to such districts, in fact, as those of which the present Lieutenant-Governor said, after an official visit: "I find them (the cultivating tenants) as prosperous, as independent, and as comfortable as the peasantry, I believe, of any country in the world—well fed, well clothed, free to enjoy the full benefit of their own labours, and to hold their own and obtain prompt redress for any wrong."

In conclusion, certain important provisions of the measure which the authorities in India are endeavouring to enact seem contrary to accepted principles of policy and justice, and I shall be glad if you are induced to advocate the appointment of a Royal Commission, or the adoption of any other mode which may seem preferable, for eliciting such information as would enable the Secretary of State to form a correct judgment on the nature and the extent of the legislation needed under the circumstances of the case.

We have always advocated some such Commission of Enquiry. No violent revolution in the land laws, such as the Rent Bill contemplates, would have been thought of in the United Kingdom, without a full enquiry into the subject. But India is not England!

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

London, 17th June 1881.

The patience with which Mr. Gladstone is carrying the Land Bill through Committee has attracted general attention and won all but general admiration. The grand old man never showed more clearly the indomitable spirit that actuates him, or that marvellous power over detail, in which he stands unrivalled among living men.

Mr. Forster showed like determination on Monday night in replying to questions as to the conduct of the military. He had given orders he said that the police and the military were to avoid firing as long as possible, but they were to do their duty and maintain the law. This was received with cheers from both sides of the House. The Irish members could make nothing of it in any way, and certainly the declaration was one of mercy to the people, who have very nearly reached the point where bloodshed will be inevitable.

The Tories are not going to make much of Mr Bradlaugh and the oath. The nation is with him—not in his atheism or Malthusianism, but in his right to the place to which he has been elected. Meeting after meeting in the great towns have pronounced in his favour. I believe more persons have opposed him on the Malthusian ground than on that of Atheism. There is something repugnant in most people in the ideas which are said to be stated in the book which a police prosecution did so much to advertise. The English people, as a people, never took kindly to the views of Dr. Malthus as to population, and consequently never mastered his remarkably clear views on many other subjects. The general opinion is, that "when God sends mouths he sends something to fill them with"—often quite a mistake of the persons who use the phrase, as you and I have seen in India, but still a strong view especially among the more seriously Englishmen, who perhaps never consider that what God sends man too often destroys.

I dare say you will not hear very much of a very important division come to by the House of Commons the other night. One night last year the House resolved that legislation with respect to the liquor laws in the direction of local option—that is, of giving the ratepayers the power to grant or refuse licences to public houses was desirable. Sir Wilfred Lawson has now followed this up by a motion which really means asking Government to give effect to the previous decision of the House, and he has carried his motion by a good majority. In Lord Beaconsfield's House no such vote would have been possible. The present Liberal Majority was gained in spite of the publicans. I am not by any means sure that the plan of placing the power in the hands of the ratepayers is a good one, but something is needed to break the power of the drink-sellers—a power which has long controlled the election of many places. The last Election meant doom to that power in politics. The Government, Mr. Bright said, are not prepared at present to take up the subject; and no wonder with the mighty questions resting on them.

But it must come. The great brewers and spirit-sellers have each so many mines of wealth that no individual has any chance of opposing them, when they demand a fresh license. That the moral sense of the nation is roused, however, these two votes show, and when we remember that they are the votes of a House elected on the broad household suffrage there is all the greater significance in them.

Speaking of representation, would it not be worth your while appealing to Parliament for some sort of representation in the House of Commons, and why not also in the House of Lords? I believe you would get it if the subject were wisely handled. Of course I do not mean popular representation—that is out of the question. But how many Princes and Chiefs would hesitate to trust their interests to so wise and just and vigorous a man as say, Sir Dinkur Rao was twenty years ago? Three or four such men would serve the best interests of India and would also be of immense value to England in a moral as well as a political sense. I am speaking of what I think practicable.

Pray do not think that I am reflecting on those of my own countrymen who are speaking regularly and warmly for India. I do not think I ever heard men speak with greater earnestness of purpose than some at the rooms of the East India Association, and the Indian Association of which Miss. Manning is the guiding spirit is alive with the same earnestness. The men in the former instance are in many cases men of the widest experience of India and men who might be presumed to have a selfish interest in opposing any such representation as that to which I venture to refer. I am greatly mistaken if they would not be among the first to welcome a representation of India's own sons.

Every sensible man in England knows that the present relations of England and India cannot be permanent. The question is what relations can be formed that will be if not permanent, at least long-enduring? No Englishman can serve you as a man like Sir Dinkur Rao could, if Sir Dinkur had had such a duty twenty years ago in Parliament. A wise man, who knew that to be useful a speech should be opportune, and that a short speech comprising all a man has to say is better than a long one would do vast good to India. Mr. Fawcett once informed me that a young Hindoo student who spoke during the election struggle at Brighton made a speech which not more than half a dozen men in the House of Commons could have surpassed, or indeed equalled, if called upon to speak on the spur of the moment, as he was. Still, I am not referring to mere eloquence; I do not value it as some people do, for beauty or grace of language. Some of the best men in Parliament are not eloquent in the usually understood sense; Sir Dinkur Rao never would have been so. What is needed is a grave, righteous, and firm statement—the very truth, neither more nor less; and I think there are questions relating, say, to Oude that only need to be firmly gravely and righteously stated to have all England—all that is best and most honourable in England—on the side of justice.

You have a powerful Association, and it has done admirable work. Could you not develope some simple plan for the representation of India in Parliament? I know the difficulties. I know also, however, that there are gentlemen in India whom no ballot box, or show of hand is needed to designate as the true leaders of the time. Sir Madhava Rao was not elected. Neither was the First Prince of Travancore, (now somewhat higher,) who had the courage as a young man to say, "gentlemen, I am not Christian," and the high-bred courtesy to instruct the young of his people as once our Alfred did.

Again, I believe that if Dr. Sircar made one speech at a meeting of the British Association, or the Social Science Association the entire relations of India to England would be altered—revolutionized. Babu Keshub Chunder Sen fell chiefly into the hands of the religious bodies. There is a great secular element of Society which he never reached. His great predecessor who now lies in Bristol cemetary, and the noble and public spirited man who followed and marked the last resting place of the self-denying teacher more nearly reached the secular heart of England. A man who came as a Scientific man purely; who had no relation to any sects orthodox or heterodox would have great influence.

I throw this out as a mere hint. I think you know that my motive, at all events, is not one of an ignoble kind, that I can have no self-interest in the matter as between India and England or between England and history.

I have read during these late May meetings some missionary speeches which have almost made my blood curdle—speeches as false as hell in the impressions they conveyed, though possibly accurate to some extent as to the mere words used. My mind has gone back to some gentlemen whom I met in India, and I have more than once or twice thought that if they use such speech they would be likely to wonder whether they were not in dreamland. Padre Long, you know, is not of the class of men who talk such nonsense. Indeed, I have read and heard sillier speeches from officers in the Army or in the Civil Service than from any missionaries, though missionaries can at times exaggerate beautifully—that is disgracefully.

Vigorous attempts are being made to excite the people against the Government as to the peace in the Transvaal. Meanwhile Mr. Gladstone has all his energies directed to the Land Bill, looking neither right nor left from the path of that primary duty. I believe all the Transvaal agitation will split on one rock, as the Candahar agitation too split on the same rock—the confidence of the nation in the Government—in the Premier, in Lord Hartington, Lord Granville, in Mr. Bright, Mr. Forster, Mr. Fawcett, and others, the foremost progressive statesmen of the age—men who never would have gagged your infant press or devised and carried out the false policy of the Afghan War. To India in particular it is of the first moment that Mr. Gladstone may long retain power. Ireland at present stops the way of useful legislation, but if much cannot be done in the direction of "legislative right" nothing at all events will intentionally be done in the direction of "legislative wrong" by the Government in England. I should be among the last to assail the character of Lord Beconsfield. He had great talents, and few prejudices—none with respect to race or creed. But his policy in India will not stand the test of fair criticism, and assuredly it will be condemned by history.

Have you observed what a mark, Mr. T. D. Macfarlane, late of Calcutta is making in the House of Commons? This is one of the most solid new reputations of the present Parliament. Mr. Macfarlane never speaks without having something to say, and what he says is said forcibly and tersely. His career is well worth watching. I question that the House contains an abler practical man, or a man less likely to "go to extremes" in politics.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN THE WASTING DISEASES OF CHILDREN.—Dr. G. Saunders, C. B., late Deputy-Inspector-General Army Hospitals, Superintendent London Medical Mission, writes:—"I have used Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil extensively among the sick poor of St. Giles's and consider it a valuable remedy, especially in the Wasting Diseases of Children." Dr. Stavely King, Physician to the Metropolitan Free Hospital, writes:—"I can very conscientiously testify to the superior qualities of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil. I have employed it with great advantage in cases of Mesenteric and Pulmonary Tubercle, and in the Atrophic Diseases of children." Dr. R. C. Croft, author of "Handbook for the Nursery," writes:—"I have tried Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, and find that it contains all the properties which render the Oil so efficacious. I find, moreover, that many patients prefer it to the Pale Oils, and are able to retain it more comfortably. It is almost a specific in many of the Diseases peculiar to Infancy and Childhood, and I have seen marked benefit produced by its use." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co, 77 Strand, London

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COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 16th July, 1881.

There has hardly been any improvement in our commercial markets during the present week to distinguish it from those that have preceded it, on the contrary the feeling to operate has been less strong and transactions in consequence have been confined within narrow limits.

Cotton Goods.—This market has not yet succeeded to attract attention of the trade, although the assuring news of rains having fallen over the various parts of the country has been received. Owing to large stocks still remaining unsold in the hands of dealers some sales have been effected in wide Grey Shirting, but for forward deliveries.

Yarns.—Import qualities continued dull, some sales it is true were reported, but at sacrificing rates, whilst country manufactured kinds found buyers even at slight advanced rates.

Exports have occupied better attention than imports, but want of free supplies accompained by high prices have im-

terrupted larger operations.

Tea—Continued to be in good request and 8,904 chests which were offered at the last public sale, held on the 14th instant, all found buyers but at prices slightly easier.

Oil-seeds.—In Linseed a fair amount of business has been done chiefly for forward deliveries, stocks are very light, parcels on arrival found buyers at prices advanced 1 to 1½ anna per md. present quotations 4 per cent. 4-6 to 4-6-6.

Rape and Poppy seeds.—Nothing of importance has transpired in these.

Wheat—continued to be in fair enquiry, but extreme rates restricted operations

Last prices may be quoted.

Rice—No change of any interest has taken place in this market, prices remain easy.

Jute—The demand has been pretty brisk and parcels on arrival found buyers, prices remain much the same as before.

MONETARY.

Money market has hardly experienced any change, rates of interest and discount both at the Bank of Bengal and outside remain unchanged,

GOVT. SECURITIES

Have continued to occupy the attention of dealers, speculators, and investors, but prices have constantly been fluctuating. they remained at the close as follows:

4 per cent. ... ... 105 to 105-12
4½ ,, ... 113-4 to 113-8.

JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

This market has been pretty lively; Jute, Cotton and Tea industries continued to find buyers; rates for these have been daily advancing.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	A.	P.
H. H. the Maharaja of Cashmere...	13	4	0
Moulvi Abdool Barri, Ampta	5	0	0
Kandi Reading Club	13	4	0
B. Kristiengar Esq., Bangalore	19	14	0
D. C. Roy Esq., Sylhet	6	10	0
Bhibiram Burooah Esq., Shillong	13	4	0
Lala Luckput Rao Esq., Murree	6	10	0
Ranchee Public Library	13	4	0
John Beames Esq. c.s., Chinsurah	8	4	0
R. Raghoonath Esq., Mysore	13	4	0
Syud Shere Ali, Jamtara	13	0	0
S. H. C. Taylor Esq., c.s. Beerbhoom	20	0	0
George Heatherley Esq., Ulwar	13	4	0
Prince Nurroddeen Khan, Rasapagla	13	4	0
Baboo Omritolal Banerjee, Purneah	6	8	0
,, Ashootose Ghose, Chundernagore	13	4	0
,, Bipin Behary Mookerjee, Moonsheegunge	10	0	0
,, Gobind Mohun Ghose, Durbhangah	15	0	0
,, Janoky Persad, Buxar	6	10	0
,, Poorno Chunder Das, Chittagong	6	10	0
,, Anath Bundoo Goho, Mymensingh	10	0	0
,, Khetter Nath Banerjee, Mymensingh	20	0	0
,, Chunder Coomar Roy, Hathazaree	10	0	0
,, Gopeemohun Sen, Cuttuck	5	0	0
,, Tareenychurn Sircar, Jahanabad	20	0	0
,, Mohendra Nath Bhattacharjee, Bogra	13	4	0
,, Lolit Mohun Singh, Shibpore	20	0	0
,, Shama Churn Ganguly, Ooterpara	13	4	0
,, Ramroop Chatterjee, Mohisraka	3	0	0
,, Kadar Nath Mozoomdar, Cooch Behar	8	0	0
,, Biprodas Chatterjee, Roghoonathgunge	13	4	0
,, Jogendro Nath Bose, Khulsinee	6	10	0
,, Sreeram Gangooly, Jessore	5	0	0
,, Annuda Persad Mozoomdar, Jubbulpore	6	10	0
,, Chundee Churn Mozoomdar, Mussooree	5	4	0
,, Debendra Chundra Mookerjee, Lohardaga	6	10	0
,, Shama Churn Moitra, Dhoobri	13	4	0
,, Kirty Chunder Chowdhry, Contai	13	4	0
,, Kadar Nath Chuckerbutty, Sankrail	5	0	0
,, Ram Chunder Mookerjee, Ferozepore	13	4	0
,, Petumber Dutt, Ranchee	6	10	0
,, Kadarnath Ganguly, Moonshigunge	10	0	0
,, Anundchunder Sen, Barisaul	13	4	0
,, Sheo Nundon Lal, Arrah	6	10	0
,, Womeshchunder Banerji, Godda	13	0	0
,, Nemychurn Newghee, Cuttack	6	10	0

ERRATUM.

For Baboo Chunder Coomar Dutt, Mancor, read Chunder Coomar Das, Madaripore..... 13 4 0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*July* 13, 1881.

GENERAL.—Mr. J. T. Jarbo, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of Sungoo Division in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 136, Rule 2, Chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr. A. R. Wigram, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is appointed to have temporary charge of the Sungoo Division of that district, in addition to his own duties, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J. T. Jarbo, or until further orders.

Mr. F. E. Pargiter, Commissioner of Sunderbuns, is appointed temporarily as Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs, in addition to his duties as Commissioner of Sunderbuns.

Mr. W. B. Oldham, Deputy Commissioner, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Mr. S.S. Jones, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Deoghur, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is appointed to act as Deputy Commissioner of that District, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. B. Oldham, or until further orders.

Mr. C. Owen, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Beerbhoom. is transferred to the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and is appointed to have charge of the Deoghur division of that district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. S. S. Jones, or until further orders.

Baboo Brohmo Nath Sen, Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the district of the 24-Purgunnahs, and is appointed to have charge ofthe Baraset division of that district.

Baboo Hurry Choitanya Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, now acting as head assistant of the Revenue Department in the Bengal Secretariat, is confirmed in the latter appointment, *vice* Baboo Brohmo Nath Sen.

Captain J. F. Rivett-Carnac, Officiating Cantonment Magistrate of Dum-Dum, is allowed leave for three months under Section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 4th instant, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Major W. Hopkinson, Cantonment Magistrate of Barrackpore, is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Cantonment Magistrate of Dum-Dum and Judge of the Small Cause Court in that Cantonment during the absence, on leave, of Captain J. F. Rivett-Carnac, or until further orders.

Mr. F. H. Barrow is appointed to act, until further orders, in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy collectors at Shahabad, with effect from the date on which he was relieved of his appointment as Officiating Magistrate and collector of that district.

Mr. J. C. Arbuthnot, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Bhagulpore, is transferred temporarily to the Sudder Station of the Purneah District.

Mr. F. B. Taylor, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector. Sewan, Sarun, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the Bhagulpore District.

Mr. A. W. Paul, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Darjeeling is appointed to act as Magistrate and collector of Patna during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. C. T. Metcalfe, C. S. I., or until further orders,

Raboo Komul Narain Chuckerbutty is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade in the Burdwan Division, *vice* Baboo Jogendronanth Gupta deputed to License Tax duty.

Advertisements.

Notice.

H. Bull, C. E., Consulting Engineer. Consultations by engagement, 11, Chowringhee.

NOTICE.

Required a head Draftsman, capable of making drawings from free hand and taking out quantities, commencing salary Rs. 75. Apply to Manager, Tirhoot and Patna-Gya State Railways.

Mezufferpore,
The 14th July 1881.

GOVERNMENT CINCHONA FEBRIFUGE.

An efficient substitute for Quinine. Sold by the principal European and Native druggists of Calcutta. Obtainable from the Superintendent, Botanical Garden, Calcutta. Post free at 4 oz., Rs. 6: 8 oz., Rs. 11: 16 oz. Rs. 20-12. Cash with order.

NOTICE.

Wanted a Head-master for the Middle Class English School at the Head-quarters of Khorda Sub-Division in the district of Pooree. Candidates should send their applications with copies of testimonials to the undersigned before the 30th July, 1881. The present salary is Rs. 37 with prospects to rise to Rs. 40. Preference will be given to the candidate who has passed the B. A. examination.

KOMUL NATH GHOSE,
Khorda, Sub-Divisional Officer and Hony.
7th July 1881. Secy. M. C. Eng. School, Khorda.

VALUABLE SANSKRIT BOOKS.

One set Ramayana Text only published by Gorresio. France, 1845-51, 5 Vols. upto Yuddha Kanda, all published Rs. 50.

Its typographical excellence defies comparison.

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DARJEELING STEAM TRAMWAY COY. LD.

Minutes of Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders, held at the Registered Office of the Company No. 5-8 Clive Street, at noon, on the 11th July, 1881.

Present:

Lieut. Col. H. H. Stansfeld, Messrs. W. C. Morgan, C. H. Moore, W. B. Gladstone, A. E. Cunliffe and Baboo Sham Churn Law.

BABOO SHAM CHURN LAW IN THE CHAIR.

It was proposed by Lieut. Col. H. H. Stansfeld, and seconded by Mr. W. C. Morgan,

and carried:

That the figures "Rs. 1,00,000" in Clause 78 of the Articles of Association be altered to "Rs. 3,00,000" thus conferring on the Directors the right to borrow up to three lacs instead of one lac of rupees.

Proposed by Mr. C. H. Moore,
and Seconded by Mr. W. C. Morgan,
and carried,

That the name of the Company be changed to "The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway Company, Ld."

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Date _____ 1881.

Signature _____

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